STARS STRIPES.

All-Europe vollevball team unveiled



AF captain earns **Bronze Star for** Iraq ad hoc convovs

Carrey takes a sour turn in **'Lemony Snicket'** Page 21

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2004

A heartbreaking toll

Experts: Large percentage of older troops serving in combat means more children at risk of losing a parent Pages 4-5



STARS STRIPES.



Funny family in 'Meet the Fockers'



Scene on Sunday

Learn to play Italy's Scopa

Don't miss a single issue.

For home delivery, call DSN 349-8437



TODAY IN STRIPES

TODAT IN STRIFES
Abby, Annie's Mailbox24 American Roundup18-19
Classified25-26
Comics22-24
Crossword23
Faces21
Horoscope22
Letters14
Opinion15
Sports27-36
TV listings20
Weather17
Your Money16

ews Tracker ... What's new with old news

States

New York tiger owner: A man sentenced to five months in jail after pleading guilty to keeping a tiger and an alligator in his New York City apartment was released from jail, and says he would like to open his own zoo.

Antoine Yates, 36, said he was freed Thursday after serving about 3½ months as a result of his guilty plea in July to reckless endangerment. He said the shortened term reflected time off for good behavior.

Yates said that he spent his jail time studying and working out physically and that he plans to apply for a job at the Bronx Zoo.

Ground Zero redevelopment: The Environmental Protection Agency has rejected state and federal requests to monitor the demolition of the Deutsche Bank building, adjacent to Ground Zero, and stepped away from agreements to coordinate with government agencies in the razing of the building.

On Dec. 14, the Lower Manhattan Development Corporation announced a multi-phased plan for the demolition of the building, scheduled to begin next year. But EPA officials said they do not believe the area will be fully guarded from toxins in the structure.

Business

Wall Street investigations: Attorney General Eliot Spitzer said Saturday that federal investigators are better equipped now to investigate corruption on Wall Street but wowed state investigators like himself will remain competitive in leading the fight against white-collar crime.

"The SEC is coming back to life and that's

good, but we're going to continue to pursue our mandate," Spitzer said in a telephone interview.

Spitzer said it was

Spitzer said it was not good to force financial firms to face multiple interpretations of regulations by individual states. Still, he made clear his office would surrender no ground to reinvigorated federal agencies, like the Securities and Exchange C



Spitzer

Spitzer commented two weeks after he declared he would run for governor in 2006, which will require large donations, some of which will come from Wall Street firms.

World

Space station supplies: An unmanned Russian cargo spaceship on a vital supply mission docked at the international space station early Sunday, delivering badly need-of food for the two-member U.S.-Russian crew, who have been forced to ration their dwindling supplies.

The Progress M-51 docked at the orbiting station at 2:58 a.m. Moscow time on Sunday, said officials at Russian mission control in Korolyov outside Moscow. Workers at the Russian center broke into applause when



Pope on gay marriage: John Paul II blesses faithful from his studio's window overlooking St. Peter's Square at the Valica on Sunday. He urged politicians on Sunday to defend the institution of the family against what he called grave challenges, an apparent reference to efforts to legalize marriage hetween homosexuals.

the docking, shown on large television screens, was completed.

The spaceship, which lifted off Friday from the remote Baikonur cosmodrome in the steppes of Kazakhstan, delivered about 2.5 tons of equipment and supplies, including more than 440 pounds of food for Russian cosmonant Salzhan Sharipov and U.S. astronaut Leroy Chiao, who are in their third month on the station.

Jewish settler relocation: Residents of a Jewish settlement in the southern Gaza Strip have agreed to move to a community inside Israel beginning in March, an Israeli official said Sunday.

The government's deal with Peat Sadeh would make it the first settlement to be dismantled under the government's plan to pull out of the Gaza Strip next year.

Yonatan Bassi, head of the government administration in charge of the withdrawal, confirmed the deal Sunday. He said a total of 25 Gaza families have finalized agreements with the government, 20 of them from Peat Sadeh.

Sudan violence: Prime Minister Tony Blair's office on Sunday dismissed a newspaper report that he had ordered the military to prepare 3,000 troops for a possible mission to Sudan's violence-torn Darfur region.

"I don't recognize that story at all," a Blair spokesman said on condition of ano-

nymity. "Our position on Sudan has been made clear. Basically, what we are doing is providing whatever help we can to the African Union force and we're working with the African Union and the U.N. to resolve the situation there," the spokesman said.

The Independent newspaper, which cited no sources, reported Sunday that Blair had told military bosses to prepare plans that could be implemented if he decides to order British troops to Sudan next year.

Austria cable car fire: Relatives of 155 skiers and snowboarders killed in an alpine cable car fire in Austria in 2000 will press on with civil lawsuits seeking damages, despite a setback in a U.S. court, a lawyer representing the families said Sunday.

Last week's ruling by the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Manhattan, which rejected the idea of class action status and a single liability trial for the victims' families, to did not deprive relatives of other ways to seek compensation, attorney Ed Fagan told the Austria Press Agency.

Claims against Siemens AG, Siemens USA, Bosch Rexroth AG, Bosch Rexroth USA and Omniglow have been refiled in U.S. courts, Fagan said. Relatives allege the companies, along with Gletscherbahnen Kaprun AG, which operated the cable can year of the Nov. 11, 2000. inferno.

War on terrorism

El Salvador troop deployment: The only country in the Western Hemisphere besides

the United States still fielding soldiers in the U.S.-led coalition in Iraq may extend its troop deployment beyond a scheduled return early next year, El Salvador's president said Saturday.

"We're helping the Iraqi people, and if there is the need to prolong our presence, if the authorities need it



Saca

and we can help, I would not have a problem," President Tony Saca said.

A decision will be made after the Jan. 30 elections in Iraq, he said.

Syria accusations: Syria on Sunday dismissed as "baseless and non-objective" accusations that it is training and helping insurgents who attack government and U.S.-led coalition forces in Iraq.

The Al-Baath daily newspaper of the ruling Baath party said the charges were part a "misleading campaign" that seeks to blame Syria for events in Iraq.

Najař s police commander Chaleb al. Jazaeri said Saturday that one of the six people detained on suspicion of organizing last week's bombing in the Iraqi lnoy city Najař, an Iraqi named Ali Hussein, had confessed to receiving training in a Syrian acmpunder the supervision of a Syrian military officer. But al-Jazaeri told the Al-Jazeera Arab satellite station that he was not accusing Syria of being behind the bombing.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press



Your savings really add up with

Certificate Specials

From Service Credit Union

2.50 Min. St., 000 min. Contact us for details!



*Rates shown are Ann Percentage Yield, accurate as of 10/01/7 and subject to change without notice. Peculty

Air Force captain awarded Bronze Star

Crow improvised to get needed supplies delivered to Balad and Baghdad

BY BEN MURRAY

Normally, going out to pick up dinner for your fellow airmen isn't an action that will earn you a Bronze Star.

But when you're an Air Force captain in Iraq leading Army-style convoys of rented Chevrolet Suburbans into Baghdad to retrieve fresh food and supplies for your fel-

low airmen, your actions tend to get noticed.

That's what happened to Capt. Shirley
Crow of the 506th Expeditionary Logistics
Readiness Squadron, who was formally

awarded the Bronze Star at Ramstein Air Base on Dec. 17 for her service in Iraq in the late summer of 2003.

That's when Crow worked at Kirkuk Air Base as a squadron operations officer, organizing fleets of Air Force planes and Army vehicles, along with their cargo.

But at the time, Army convoy operations were still in their infancy, Crow said Tuesday, and supplies for airmen weren't reaching the northern Iraq air base.

"The stuff would get to Baghdad and that's as far as it would go unless we went and got it," she said. So the 36-year-old captain did what any good airman would do: She improvised and found herself organizing ad hoc truck convoys to Balad and Baghdad, something she said she had "no training whatsoever" to do.

Crow said she and other airmen would hop in their unarmored Suburbans, "guns out the window [and] battle-rattle on" to depots to pick up supplies.

In addition, halfway through her 128-day deployment Crow had to take command of her squadron when the acting commander went home on emergency leave. In that job, Crow oversaw the movement of millions of gallons of fuel, thousands of passengers and tons of cargo, keeping the vehicles running and the airmen fed while under periodic mortar at-

tacks, her medal citation reads. Crow's commander, Lt. Col. Jay Jennings, Deputy Commander of the 435th Logistics Readiness Group, said he was not surprised to see Crow receive the award, having known her since she was a junior officer at Pone Air Force Base in North Carolina.

"I could see then she was going to be an excellent operations officer," Jennings said.

Email Ben Murray at: murrayb@mail.estripes.osd.mil

Military wife finds her niche as a travel writer

BY BEN MURRAY Stars and Stripes

RAMSTEIN, Germany — For Krista Dana, breaking into the world of travel writing came down to two things: a desperate editor and a set of well-written Christmas letters.

Searching for work as a youth counselor at Aviano Air Base, Italy, in the mid-1990s, the wife of a major assigned to NATO said she had reached a dead end in her hunt for a job that would draw on her new psychology degree.

But frequent moves are the bane of many a career-oriented military wife, she said, and after reaching her wits' end in Aviano, she started looking for a different way to adapt to her transient way of life.

Sending out a tall stack of letters in a shotgun pattern to editors in Europe and the United States, Dana started pitching ideas for travel stories. She got a single response that, she said, was literally one in 100.

"There was an editor in New York who had lost his Italy correspondent and had a deadline to meet, so he was as desperate as I was," Dana said.

The editor asked for samples of her writing, so she sent him the only thing she had: copies of Christmas letters sent to her family back home.

"[They were] just little snippets of travel writing," Dana said, but the editor was convinced. "Like I said ... he was desperate."

The break launched her into 10 years of writing hundreds of hotel, restaurant and ski resort reviews covering destinations around the globe. This fall, that experience led to the publication of the Ramstein-area resident's first book, "The Alps Adventure Guide," which hit bookstores Sept. 14.

A traveler's reference to 73 locations across six countries, Dana's book is a tutorial on everything from good places to paraglide in the mountains to where to find a hot meal in any number of tiny slope-side hamlets.

"Alps" also contains passages on cultural events and the history of the towns covered in the book, a feature Dana's friend Alex Grynkewich said was his favorite of the guide, which he used on a recent trip to Zermatt, Switzerland.

"That's something you'd be hard pressed to find just walking around," he said.

To compile an adventure guide

To compile an adventure guide to such a diverse region is an accomplishment for someone who says she doesn't view herself as either a world-weary traveler or a particularly adventurous person.

"I don't see myself that way," Dana said at a cafe in Ramstein and, dressed in a very sensible, almost librarian-type wool sweater and turtleneck, hands cupped around a latte, she didn't particularly look "that way" either.

"I knew she was adventurous," said her husband, Maj. Matthew Dana, who works with NATO's



Photo courtesy of Alex Holman, Alpimages Verbier

Krista Dana, whose first book is called "The Alps Adventure Guide," gets cozy with a St. Bernard in the Alps. Dana, a military spouse who lives near Kaiserslautern, Germany, has turned her experience as a travel writer into the book published in September.

44Mu take on it

was, 'Screw the

Combined Air Operations Center at Ramstein. "But I didn't see travel writing in her future." Nor did his wife at first, she

said.

The offer to write hotel reviews came in the same week she landed a job at a youth center in Aviano — the very job she'd been searching for all along — and her

decision on which one to take was tougher than might be expected, she said.

"That was stability versus ambiguity and the unknown," she said.

Choosing the latter and embarking on a career as a writer, Dana faced an almost identical quanda-

ry in 2002, when she got a contract to write "Alps" within days of being accepted into a doctoral program through Oklahoma University. Again, she struggled, she said.

"My take on it was, 'Screw the doctorate ... do the book' " Matthew Dana said. But this time Krista took a different path: She accepted both. These days, with the book in stores and her doctoral program in organizational leadership well on its way, Dana said she doesn't have plans to go back to a life of scouring Milan for swank clubs and testing cheese dishes in Geneva—even though she's had offers

to write two more books.

Instead, Dana said for now she's going to focus on her doctoral dissertation —

a study on innovative ways military spouses can find career fulfillment. After spending her working days

doctorate . . . do
the book. '79
Maj. Matthew Dana
husband of writer
Krista Dana
in Switzerland for the past 10 years, it would be com-

forting to hear that Dana is leaving the business because it's really just a morass of train delays, lost luggage and crushing deadlines.

But the new author doesn't try to ease anyone's jealousy.

"I will not complain," she said.
"It was a dream project for me."

E-mail Ben Murray at: murrayb@mail.estripes.osd.mil

Prison for Vilseck GI in child porn, steroids case

BY STEVE LIEWER

Stars and Stripes

A Vilseck, Germany-based soldier will serve one year in prison after pleading guilty to charges of possessing anabolic steroids and child pornography.

Sgt. Sean M. Choy. 28, of the 1st Battalion, 637 d Armor Regiment, also was ordered reduced to the lowest enlisted rank and handed a bad-conduct discharge by the military judge, Lt. Col. Robin Hall, at a court-martial Dec. 16 in Vilseck, according to a trial summary released Thursday by the 1st Infantry Division's Staff Judge Advocate's office.

According to the summary, Choy acknowledged using his personal computer in late 2003 to surf pornographic Web sites on the Internet. During one session, it said, he downloaded about 10 images of pre-pubescent girls in sexually explicit poses. In a search of his apartment, police found a diskette with some of the photos under his mattress, while others were on his computer's hard drive.

About the same time, the summary said, Choy ordered 1,000 anabolic steroid tablets from Thailand and wired a payment to the supplier.

German customs officials intercepted the shipment and ordered a search of Choy's off-base apartment.

According to the trial summary, that search turned up 96 steroid tablets, several vials containing liquid steroids, and a small cooler filled with syringes.

Choy's sentence will be reviewed by the court-martial convening authority, the Grafenwöhr-based 7th Army Training Command. The sentence may be reduced, but it cannot be increased.

E-mail Steve Liewer at: LiewerS@mail.estripes.osd.mil





An accomplished reviewer of travel destinations, Dana's first book "The

published in September. It is available at some Army and Air Force Exchange Service stores.

Job: Travel writer

Age: 36 Family: Married to Maj.

Matthew Dana, who works with NATO's Combined Air Operations Center at Ramstein Air Base, Germany

Hobby: Travel

Stars and Stripe

For the littlest survivors, the biggest loss

Almost 900 U.S. kids have had a parent killed in Iraq

BY LISA HOFFMAN AND ANNETTE RAINVILLE Scripps Howard News Service

ad to the depths of his 4-year-old soul, Jack Shanaberger knew what he didn't want to be when he grows up: a father

"I don't want to be a daddy because daddies die," the child sol-emnly told his mother after his father, Staff Sgt. Wentz "Baron" Shanaberger, a military policeman from Fort Pierce, Fla., was killed March 23 in an ambush in

On that terrible day, Jack and his four siblings joined the ranks of the largely overlooked American casualties who, until now, have gone uncounted. Although almost daily official announcements tally the war dead, the collateral damage to the children left behind has not been detailed. But, from Defense Department

casualty reports, obituaries and accounts in hometown newspapers and family interviews, Scripps Howard News Service has identified nearly 900 U.S. children who have lost a parent in the war, from the start of the conflict in March 2003 through November, when a total of 1,256 troops had died

Although comparably specific historical data is not available for other U.S. wars, military experts said the proportionally higher number of American children left bereaved by the Iraq war is unprecedented.

"This is a new state of affairs we have to confront," said Charles Moskos, a leading military sociologist and Northwestern University professor.

Overall, Americans in uniform today are far more likely to be married and have children than in the military of the past, Moskos and others said. And the reliance in Iraq on reserve forces - who tend to be older and even more settled than active-duty soldiers also means more offspring at home

Even though the federal government provides an array of bene fits for widows, widowers and minor children, more help is needed — including counseling — for at least 882 American children left without a parent from the war in Iraq

"As much as we are concerned about veterans' programs, we now have to be concerned about orphan programs," Moskos said. "This is the first time we have crossed this threshold." crossed this threshold.

According to the Scripps research, more than 40 percent of the 1,256 war dead through No-vember were married, and 429 had children. At least half of those youngsters were 10 years old or younger. Among the parents who died were six female sol-



Surrounded by family mem bers, Corey Shanaberger holds daughter Grace, 3, during the funeral for her husband, Staff Sgt. Wentz "Baron" Shanaberger, whose casket is carried at right by the Army Honor Guard from Fort Stewart. Ga., out of the Coleman and Ferguson Funeral Home in Dade City, Fla. Shanaberger was killed in Iraq in an ambush. He left behind his wife and five children. OTOS BY ST. PETERSBURG

diers who had borne a total of 10 children among them - another historic first for women in the

U.S. military. Perhaps most heartbreaking are the more than 40 troops who

died without ever seeing chiltheir least 34 wives were pregnant with twins when their husbands died, and another 15 had babies while their spouses were deployed.

of the latter

were able to

return home

on paternity

leave most

Charles Moskoste Military sociologist and Northwestern University professor

died before they could. Among those who never once held their babies was Army 1st Lt. Doyle Hufstedler, 25, of Abilene, Texas, who was killed in March when a roadside bomb hit

his armored personnel carrier near Habbaniyah. In his uniform pocket. Hufstedler carried a sonogram picture of his unborn daughter, the only image he would ever have of Grace Ashley, who ar-

rived weeks after 44 This is a new state his death of affairs we have to birth confront. As much Katie, husband's as we are concerned first-born and spitting about veterans' image, programs, we now Army have to be concerned Heath Pirtle about orphan programs. 77

"It's almost hard to look at her sometimes," Ursula Pirtle, who now lives in Harker Heights. Texas, wrote in a posthumous online letter to her husband. "I would give my right arm to get a

north

chance to see you two together. .. I know she would be the biggest joy you've ever known."

Despite their losses, Pirtle and most other surviving spouses say they still support the war. They say they are profoundly proud of their loved ones' willingness to give their lives for their country and to help bring democracy to Iraq. That pride helps their children cope as well.

Virginia Collier, of Harrison, Ark., found great solace in her husband's undimmed belief that the Iraq war was not only justified, but also engendering more good than the media has portrayed. A father of four, her husband, Army National Guard Sgt. Russell Collier, 48, was killed Oct. 3 trying to help a fellow soldier

Veronica Collier told a local news-

bring a measure of comfort to the bereaved spouses and other relatives, providing a tangible link to the parent who is gone. Hufst-edler's widow, Leslie, said her daughter is a perpetual prod to get on with life

War's toll includes six moms

Army Pfc. Lori Piestewa was not only the first female American soldier killed in combat in Iraq, she was also the first U.S. military mother to die in the war. In all, six mothers in uniform

have died in Iraq between the start of the war in March 2003 and the end of November, leaving behind a total of 10 chil-dren. Overall, 27 women troops have died in the war.

Among the mothers were: ■ Piestewa, 23, who died in the March 23, 2003, ambush in which Pfc. Jessica Lynch was captured in Nasiriyah. She had two children, Brandon, 4, and Carla, 3. Both now are being raised by their grandparents in El Paso, Texas.

■ Another single Army mother, Spc. Jessica Cawvey, joined the Illinois National Guard to build a better life for her daughter, Sierra, 6. Cawvey died Oct. 6 when a roadside bomb exploded as her convoy passed near Falluiah.

Cawvey, 21, "wasn't the military type," her mother, Sandra Cawvey, told a local newspa-per. She enlisted in the Guard simply to help pay for college so she could get a decent job. Before she deployed to Iraq, Cawvey had been living with her parents and Sierra, and working on a bachelor's degree in accounting at Illinois State University in Normal, Ill.

The impact of Cawvey's death on Sierra was somewhat cushioned by the fact that the child is continuing to live with child is continuing to live with her grandparents. "She's doing just fine," said Clarence Cawvey, Jessica's uncle. "It's more like she lost a sister."

■ Less than a week after Cawvey died, Army Sgt. Pame-la Osbourne was killed by shrapnel from a rocket attack on her camp in Baghdad. A native of Jamaica, Osbourne, 38, came to America when she was 14 with two dreams become a U.S. citizen and to serve in the military.

A medical condition could

have kept her out of Iraq duty, but Osbourne was determined to serve her country, her husband Rohan Osbourne told a local newspaper in Hollywood.

While she was deployed, her husband tended to their three children, ages 9 to 19. A supply specialist, Osbourne managed to call home almost every day. between 5 and 6 a.m.

She made her husband promise not to hide anything from the kids if the worst hap-

"Even if I come home in a ox, you should know that I did it for [all of] you. Take care of the kids. our, bourne told her spouse.

— Lisa Hoffman



Ursula Pir-

gave

her

after

Spc

27, of La Mesa, N.M., under fire in Taji, Iraq.

"He died doing what he loved." killed Oct. 3, 2003. paper. By all accounts, children also in an insurgent attack Raghdad

SEE LOSS ON PAGE 5



A letter to Carson, Dakota and Melissa Givens, of Fountain, Colo. Pfc. Jesse Givens died when his tank fell into the Euphrates River in May 2003. This "in case of my death" letter was found on him.

In letters, fallen GIs leave their last words

Scripps Howard News Service

Here are excerpts from the last letters of fallen U.S. soldiers to their children

'I can't say I love vou enough'

Marine Staff Sgt. Russell Slay, 28, of Humble, Texas, who was killed Nov. 9 in Fallujah when his armored vehicle was attacked by insurgents, wrote the following in his last letter home to his daughter Kinlee, 9, and son Walker 5

"Tell Kinlee that I love her and never knew what life was before she was born, ... She'll always be Daddy's little girl. .. Daddy will always be with her and watching out for her. I'll miss you. Hugs and Kisses.'

To Walker, "You're the sweetest little man. Be studious, stay in school and stay away from the military. I mean it. Always be a man. If you make mistakes, stand up and say so."

Slay told his daughter to go to college, and his son to have children of his own so he could "feel the joy and happiness you brought me

"My family was in my last thoughts. I can't say I love you

'Please, be proud of me

Army Pfc. Jesse Givens. 34. of Fountain, Colo., was killed May 1, 2003, when his tank tumbled into the Euphrates River when a riverbank gave way. He wrote what follows to his sons, Dakota, and Carson, who was born four weeks after Givens' death:

"Dakota - You are more son than I could ever ask for. I can only hope I was half the dad You taught me how to care until it hurts, you taught me how to smile again. You taught me that life isn't so serious and some times you have to play. You have a big, beautiful heart. Through life, you need to keep it open and follow it.

"Never be afraid to be yourself. I will always be there in our park when you dream so we can still play together. I hope some day you will have a son like mine. Make them smile and shine just like you. I hope some day you will understand why I didn't come home. Please, be proud of me. Please don't stor loving life. Take in every breath like it's your first. I will always be there with you. I'll be in the sun, shadows, dreams and joys of your life.

"Bean [his pet name for the unborn Carson] - I never got to see you but I know in my heart you are beautiful. I will always have with me the feel of the soft nudges on your mom's belly, and the joy I felt when we found out you were on the way

"I dream of you every night, and I always will. Don't ever think that since I wasn't around that I didn't love you. You were conceived of love and I came to this terrible place for love Please understand that I had to be gone so that I could take care of my family. I love you, Bean."

Loss: Trying to keep memories alive

Now sharing a home with her parents in Charlotte, N.C., Hufstedler, 25, said she has been dreading the Christmas season, which would have been the first for her brand new family, but she has resolved to celebrate for Grace's

In Hinesville, Ga., Denise Marshall also expects a sad Christmas, a holiday for which her hushand Army Sot 1st Class Robert Marshall, once handled the biggest decorating chores.

That is the least of the new widow's problems. Since Marshall, 50, was killed in a rocket-pro-pelled gun attack in April 2003. his wife has struggled financially and otherwise to care for their three children, all of whom have medical disabilities. The trio are getting counseling to help with loss, but the emotional wound remains fresh.

More than a year after his father's passing, Marshall's son, Richard 16 still has a hard time sleeping. Once, his mother said, Richard asked her, "Did Dad love his soldiers more than he loved

The fierce love many fallen soldiers had for their children is evident in both the reasons they joined the ser

44 You might forget

what your daddy

looked like, but

always remember

what he felt like.

Always remember

his hugs, always

remember his

kisses and always

Shanaberger, who died in Iraq

vice and in letand ters e-mails they sent home Pfc. Stephen Downing, 30, of Burkesville, Ky., gave up his truck-driving job to join the Army to provide a better life for his children, Taylor, 9, Stephen, 5. and

kids "His were everything in the world for him. Downing's ex-wife, LeAnn Emmons, told a local newspa-

A man with a soft spot for all

children. Downing — killed Oct. 28 by a sniper in Ramadi - told his family he would also be fighting for the children of Iraq "He told his kids that he wanted Iraqi know me." kids to have the same opportuni ties [American] kids do," Em-

mons said. It was own bottomless love for his wife and two daughters that gave rise to the worst fear for Army Chief Warrant Officer William Brennan, an Army helicopter pilot killed in a crash Oct. 16 on a mission to protect Iraci

civilians fleeing

under fire from

Brennan, 36, of

remember insurgents. "It's not the his love !! fear of death that wears me Corey Shanaberger, down. It is the on what she tells her children feeling of not to remember about their father. being there for Staff Sot Wentz "Raron" my three girls,

> Bethlehem. Conn., wrote in an Easter letter to his sister. Only two years old when his own father died, Brennan worried that, if he were killed his children "would never

Corey Shanaberger, widow of the Florida MP killed in March, is doing everything she can so her children will remember their father in both life and death. Baron Shanaberger left instructions that, if he died, his five kids should be permitted to see him in his coffin, believing that would help them come to terms with his passing and provide them some

At the funeral home viewing, Jack and his twin sister, Grace, climbed up so they could touch and kiss him in his open casket. The children placed precious mementos in the coffin with him — a little red truck, a stuffed puppy dog, a favorite doll, a photo.

Now, each night when the stars are out. Corey Shanaberger tells her children that one star is their daddy coming out of heaven to watch over them. They all blow a kiss to the sky.

"I always tell my children, 'You might forget what your daddy looked like, but always remember what he felt like'," she said.

"Always remember his hugs, always remember his kisses and always remember his love

Organizations that help survivors

Scripps Howard News Service

When a U.S. servicemember is killed on duty, his family is entitled to an array of benefits.

Among other help, the family can receive a one-time payment of \$12,000, burial benefits, life insurance proceeds, and at least \$967 a month in survivor compensation. In some cases, the Department of Veterans Affairs also will pay \$241 a month for each child left without a parent.

But, due to the vagaries of regulations and individnal circumstances, the amount a surviving family receives varies and, in many cases, does not stretch far enough to cover a family's expenses.

Across the country, some friends, relatives and co-workers of troops who have fallen in Iraq have set up funds for the bereaved families or for their children's educations.

There also are several national groups that help military families in need, and, in some cases, accept donations from the public. Among them are:

- Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund. Provides unrestricted grants to families of fallen troops. 212-245-0072. On the Web: www.intrepidmuseum.
- org/foundation heroesfund.html ■ Fallen Patriot Fund. Provides financial grants to the families of those killed or seriously injured in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Call 214-658-7125. On the Web: www.fallenpatriotfund.org
- Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS). Provides services to all who have lost a loved one while serving in the U.S. armed forces. 1-800-959-TAPS (8277). On the Web: www.taps.org
- Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society. Provides financial assistance and emergency grants to families and survivors. On the Web: www.nmcrs.org



THE CHAPLOTTE ORSERVER/SHN

Leslie Hufstedler's husband, Doyle, died in April, one month before his daughter, Grace, shown here at five months, was born. The only picture Doyle Hufstedler, of Abilene, Texas, would ever have of his unborn daughter was a sonogram image, which he kept in his uniform pocket.

Iragis' fear keeps intel scarce in Samarra

BY JOSH WHITE The Washington Post

SAMARRA, Iraq - The soldiers kicked the wooden doors open and swarmed through the houses, rolling up rugs, looking through cabinets, searching boxes, pushing aside couches. Within minutes, they had lined up the Iraqi men they had found inside. The men were taken outside and made to squat in the late-night darkness, their breath streaming out in faint wispy clouds as their hands pushed flat

against a concrete wall. The soldiers were from the U.S. Army Special Forces, the Iraqi National Guard and Apache Company of the 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment out of Schwein-furt, Germany. They were looking for a suspected insurgent, but the insurgent was not there.

The Sunday night raid was what soldiers here call a "dry hole."

They received an intelligence tip, and it led to nothing. They broke down doors and interrogated people who appeared to have no connection to the war the United States is waging. The soldiers paid the families in U.S. dollars for the broken door jambs and the splintered cabinet doors that hung askew

The frustrating dead end was a symptom of what officers here agree is a virtual intelligence meltdown in Samarra, a city 65

Residents refuse to help American troops after rebels step up attacks, intimidation

miles north of Baghdad in the Sunni Triangle, where the insurgency runs deep Rebels have intimidated the local popula-

launching attacks from neighborhoods where residents fear the consequences of helping the American occupiers

"It's all about intimidation," said Lt. Col. Eric O. Schacht, commander of the Army's Battalion, 26th Infantry Regim which oversees Samarra. Schacht said the spreading fear had stymied his unit's ability to gather intelligence. "The residents do now who the bad guys are. They're afraid. It's a daily struggle that we have to fight.

We just always have to get ahead" of the insurgents, he added. "They're pretty

good at getting their message out."

The message is carried in mighty explosions that rock this city, in AK-47 assault rifle fire, in mortar attacks, and even in carefully placed propaganda that warns Iraqis that cooperation with the Americans will not be tolerated. Masked men arrive at the doors of Samarrans who have been seen talking to soldiers. The residents are told that if they provide any assistance to the soldiers, they will be killed.

On Tuesday afternoon, soldiers from

Bushmaster Company of the 1-26 Infantry cleared residents out of a neighborhood where they were preparing to detonate what was believed to be an improvised bomb. One man came to his front gate and timidly spoke with an interpreter working for the U.S. forces, Muhammed Hassan, 42. his eyes darting across the large dirt lot next to his home, said he was uncomfort able letting American soldiers onto his roof to secure the area

Just days earlier, Hassan's uncle had been killed for opposing the insurgents. Hassan moved his son out of the area because insurgents threatened to kill his family if he continued to let the soldiers into his

ome. Masked men came to his door. "Of course we are afraid. Of course we don't want to help," Hassan said.

The insurgents have become bolder in the past few weeks, posting signs at schools that say the United States is losing the war and claiming that American forces suffered tens of thousands of casualties in the battle for Fallujah. When a soldier went to remove one of the signs on Tuesday, some-

one fired a machine gun at him.

At another school, graffiti supported

ernment officials as "dogs who obey the Americans." Residents blame foreigners, claiming the insurgents are Syrians or Iranians. They deny that Iraqis could be doing

this to their own people.

"There are thieves in Samarra," said the headmaster of one school for girls, who spoke on the condition of anonymity. "I don't know them, and I hate them. They have threatened to kidnap me. and I am very afraid of them. But we need the help from the Americans. We need democra-

Forced to gather intelligence in such an environment, U.S. soldiers have become more like heavily armed police officers, patrolling the streets to keep crime down and protect citizens from random explosions and gunfire. Some troops liken the effort to community policing — walking a beat and learning the neighborhood to gain trust and confidence from residents.

'Without good intelligence and knowledge of where the bad guys are, we can't chase the bad guys," said Capt. Benjamin Marlin, the Apache Company commander.
"They don't wear uniforms. It makes it difficult to know their locations and their targeting. We have to jump on every little piece of intel we get, and often that leads to misfocused efforts, bothering people we don't need to bother, and frustra-

Mysterious front companies hindering oil-for-food inquiry

BY SAM CAGE The Associated Press

GENEVA - The U.N.-ordered probe into oil-for-food corruption is being seriously hampered by an elaborate system of ghost firms set up around the world to cover the tracks of bribes to Saddam Hussein as he cheated the \$60 billion program, a top investigator said

Some front companies in this global oil trading center and elsewhere that dealt with Saddam have been liquidated or have hidden ownership, complicating the search for evidence of financial improprieties, said Swiss criminal lawyer Mark Pieth. He's one of three commission members leading the probe headed by former U.S. Federal Reserve chairman Paul Volcker.

Maior oil trading companies and individuals - from American businessmen to French, Chinese and Russian politicians are suspected of benefiting from lucrative Iraqi oil contracts that involved kickbacks, according to the independent panel's initial

Those who profited may have been able to hide behind a web of fiction by making transactions through ghost firms that exist mostly on paper, Pieth told The Associated Press

Despite the thin trail. Pieth said he was confident investigators would ultimately trace the funds back to those who may have made illicit profits — or allowed Saddam and his regime to profit illegally - during the oil-for-food program, which existed from 1996 until 2003.



expected to be

finished until

well into 2005

United Nations in New York.

'It is a problem. Yes, of course it is, but on the other hand we also have means of finding the benefi-cial owners." Pieth said. "There is usually a file, if the banks have done their job."

Pieth said national authorities and banks in Switzerland and

nations where front comhandled nanies oil-for-food deals have should records of who

"Switzerland and Liechtenstein have promised to help." Pieth said of

the two countries where more than two dozen companies got oil under the program, according to an AP examination of records

Neither nation is known for having oil reserves of its own. But according to a list Volcker released

of 248 companies that "lifted," or exported, Iraqi oil under the program, companies based in Switzerland took more than those from any other country except France and Russia. The tiny principality of Liechtenstein — which has 33,000 inhabitants - came in

eighth on the list. The \$30 million Volcker has said that being on oil-for-food the list doesn't necessarily imply probe isn't guilt in paying

kickbacks Switzerland Liechtenstein are among countries whose regulations lav

and traditions of discretion in business and banking make them attractive for trading companies.

Front companies registered in other tax havens - such as Cyprus, Jordan, Panama, Curacao in the Caribbean, and Jersev in

Countries participating in oil-for-food program

According to an U.N.-ordered inquiry, these are the top 10 countries that purchased oil from Iraq under the oil-for-food program from 1996 until 2003:

Тор	10 countries	In billions
1.	Russia	\$19.26
2.	France	4.39
3.	Switzerland	3.48
4.	Britain	3.38
5.	Turkey	3.34
6.	Italy	2.72
7.	China	2.63
8.	Liechtenstein	2.47
9.	Spain	1.64
10.	Malaysia	1.49

The United States is listed in 26th place at \$482.83 million.

SOURCE: United Nations oil-for-food investigation.

the Channel Islands off the United Kingdom - also feature in the

The program, which began in 1996 and ended last year after the U.S. invasion ousted Saddam, allowed Iraq to trade about \$60 billion worth of oil for food, medicine and other necessities that became scarce under strict U.N. economic sanctions imposed after the Gulf War. The program was credited with preventing widespread starvation.

Congressional investigators who also are looking into corruption at the program said in November that they had uncovered evidence Saddam's government raised more than \$21.3 billion in illegal revenue by subverting sanctions and oil-for-food program.

Volcker's independent commission was set up this year at the request of U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan to investigate the program. Pieth is the second commissioner and the third is South African Richard Goldstone, who prosecuted Yugoslav war crimes.



Mark Pieth

A preliminary report on findings is expected to be released in January, but the \$30 million probe isn't expected to be finished until well into 2005.

"We're not going to do diplomatic soft talk." Pieth said. "If there's something to be said, we are going to name these people involved



Pentagon Car Sales

...GERMANY

KAISERSLAUTERN

Kaiserstrasse 1 67661 Kaiserslautern Tel: 0631 351 900

HEIDELBERG

Hebelstrasse 3 69115 Heidelberg Tel: 06221 144 911

MANNHEIM

Waldeckweg 3 68309 Mannheim Tel: 0621 724 6901

WIESBADEN / MAINZ Ludwig-Wolker-Str. 14

55252 Mainz-Kaste Tel: 06134 567 800

...ITALY

AVIANO

Via Pordenone 48D Aviano (PN) 33081 Tel: 0434 676 613/4

VICENZA

Viale Della Pace 254B Vicenza (VI) 36100 Tel: 0444 305 888

NAPLES

Via Eduardo Scarfoglio, 7/f 80125 Naples Tel: 081 762 3868

SIGONELLA

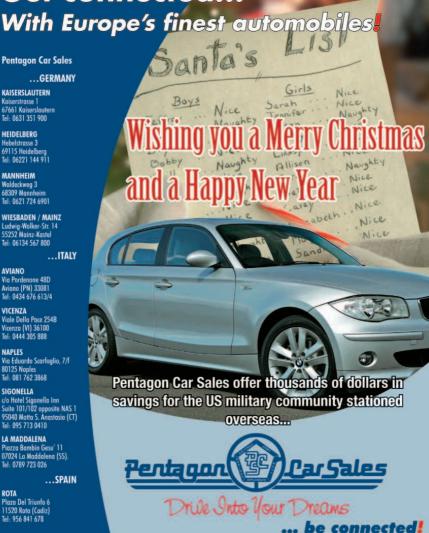
c/o Hotel Sigonella Inn Suite 101/102 opposite NAS 1 95040 Motta S. Anastasia (CT) Tel: 095 713 0410

LA MADDALENA

Piazza Bambin Gesu' 11 07024 La Maddalena (SS) Tel: 0789 723 026

SPAIN

Plaza Del Triunfo 6 11520 Rota (Cadiz) Tel: 956 841 678



Iraqi general: Suicide bomber was not Guard

BY BASSEM MROUE

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Last week's suicide attack in a US. base in

Mosul was not carried out by a

member of the Iraqi security forees, although the attacker may

have been wearing an Iraqi uniform, the head of Iraq's armed

forces said Sunday.
"Certainly he was not a member of the National Guards because all of our men stationed in the base have been accounted for," Gen. Babaker B. Shawkat Zebari said in an interview with The Associated Press.

He spoke as the Ansar al-Sunna Army group, which has claimed responsibility for the Mosul strike, released a video of what appeared to be the actual bombing.

On Tuesday, an attacker blew histering in a crowded mess hall at the Marez base just south of Mosul, Iraq's third-largest city, 225 miles northwest of Baghdad. The explosion, the deadliest strike on a U.S. military facility, triggered a wide-ranging investigation into how the attacker penetrated the heavily guarded area. Asked about President Bush's

Asked about President Bush's comments in which he said members of Iraq's fledgling military force were fleeing from combat, Zebari replied: "I think the president received misleading information."

The general said none of his soldiers had deserted from the battlefield, but acknowledged that some recruits undergoing training decided to quit after they were told they would be posted to the restive city of Fallujah that was retaken from insurgents last month by U.S. and Iraqi troops. Zebari said the troubled north-

Zeoari said the troubled northern city of Mosul was now under control of U.S. and government forces and that "more military units are being sent there to restore calm."

Eighteen Americans were killed in the attack — 13 servicemembers and five U.S. civilian contractors — and three Iraqi guardsmen and one unidentified

U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Saturday, at least 1,232 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 1034 died as a result of hostile action, the Defense Department said.

The AP count is seven higher than the Defense Department's tally, last updated at 10 a.m. EST Thursday.

a.m. EST Thursday.

The latest deaths reported

by the military:
■ No new deaths reported.
The latest identifications reported by the Defense Depart-

■ Army 1st Lt. Christopher W. Barnett, 32, Baton Rouge, La, died Thursday in Baghdad when an explosive detonated near his vehicle; assigned to the National Guard's 1st Battalion, 156th Armor Regiment, 256th Brigade Combat Team, Shreveport, La. "non-U.S. person," according to figures released by the U.S. mili-

of the 69 wounded, 44 were U.S. military personnel and the remainder American civilians,

Iraqi troops and other foreigners. Zebari said Iraqi forces are getting stronger every day and that he expected them to be capable of replacing the Americans within six months to a year.

Footage of attack

BAGHDAD — The radical Islamic group that claimed responsibility for the deadliest attack on a U.S. base in Iraq released on Sunday dramatic videotape showing three militants describing their plans to carry out the suicide bombing, which killed more

than 20 people.

The footage also shows what ap-

pears to be the attack itself, showing a fireball rising up and a torn white tent. In the Dec. 21 attack, a bomber — probably dressed in an

bomber — probably dressed in an Iraqi military uniform — slipped into a dining tent packed with soldiers eating lunch and set off his explosives at Forward Operating Base Marez on the outskirts of the city of Mosul in northern Iraq, according to U.S. officials.

In the new video, which carried

a Dec. 20 date on the footage, three guerrillas clad in black, wearing face masks and carrying AK-47 automatic rifles describe their plans.

One of the men read a statement saying another of the three — identified as Abu Omar al-Musali — would carry out the attack by breaking into the base through the perimeter fence.

From The Associated Press



GIVE A GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING

SPECIAL OFFER! Subscribe to Stars and Stripes before December 31, 2004 and receive an EXTRA! EXTRA! large Stars and Stripes gift mug!

Don't miss daily developments on issues that affect you the most – Deployments, Local Happenings, Military Transformation, DoDDs Schools and so much more.

Special introductory rates offer substantial savings on the cover price!

Three months: \$45.50 (Save 12.5%) Six months: \$84.50 (Save 18.75%) Twelve months: \$156 (Save 25%)

Contact your Stars and Stripes customer service representative today: tel: 06155 601 438 or DSN 349-8438. Email: customerservice@mail.estripes.osd.mil Mention promo code: FREEMUG to receive your Stars and Stripes gift mug.



*Gift mug offer valid only while supplies last. Special introductory rates available to new Home Delivery subscribers only. Home delivery not available in some areas; contact your STANS AND STRIMS customer service representative for more details.

IN THE WORLD

Massive quake kills thousands in Asia

Tsunamis crush several nations

The Associated Press

JAKARTA, Indonesia — The world's most powerful earthquake in 40 years struck deep under the Indian Ocean off the west coast of Sumatra on Sunday, triggering tidal waves up to 20 feet high that obliterated villages and seaside resorts in six countries across southern and southeast Asia. At least 8,000 people were killed in the devastation.

Tourists, fishermen, homes and cars were swept away by walls of water that rolled across the Bay of Bengal, unleashed by the 8.9-magnitude earthquake. The tsunami waves barreled nearly 3,000 miles across the ocean to Africa, where at least nine people were killed in Somalia.

In Sri Lanka, 1,000 miles west of the epicenter, more than 3,000 people were killed, the country's top police official said; that number, however, does not include the 1,500 deaths reported by rebels who control part of the country.

Nearly 2,500 were reported dead in Indonesia, and about 2,300 along the southern coasts of India.



Residents carry a body of a victim Sunday after tidal waves hit following an earthquake in Lhokseumawe, Aceh province, Indonesia. The quake registered 8.9 on the Richter scale, and thousands are dead.

At least 289 were confirmed dead in Thailand, 42 in Malaysia and 2 in Bangladesh.

But officials expected the death toll to continue to rise, with hundreds reported missing and all communications cut off to towns in the Indonesian island of Sumatra that were closest to the enjoyeter. Hundreds of hodies were found on various beaches along India's southern state of Tamil Nadu, and more were expected to be washed in by the sea, officials said.

The rush of tsunami waves brought sudden disaster to people carrying out their daily activities on the ocean's edge. Sunbathers on the beaches of the Thai resort of Phuket were washed away. A group of 32 Indians — including 15 children — were killed while taking a ritual Hindu bath to mark the full moon day. Fishing boats, with their owners clinging to their sides, were picked up by the

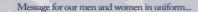
waves and discarded.
The U.S. Geological Survey mea-

8.9 quake rocks northern Indonesia



See related story on Page 10

8.9. Geophysicist Julie Martinez said it was the world's fifth-largest since 1900 and the largest since a 9.2 temblor hit Prince William Sound Alaska in 1964



WE ARE PROUD OF YOU!

From coast to coast, thousands of Americans are grateful for what you do and want to show you that they care. To see the actions and messages of support from these groups and individuals from all across America, visit www.stripes.com.

This is just a small token of appreciation, a way to say...





Please visit the site at

www.stripes.com and click on the America Supports You button to view the messages of support and to submit your own thank you notes as well!







Ukrainian opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko, with his son Taras, 2, votes in Kiev, Ukraine, on Sunday. Exit polls show Yushchenko winning.

3 exit polls give Yushchenko win

BY JUDITH INGRAM

KIEV, Ukraine — Three exit polls projected Ukrainian opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko the winner by a commanding margin over Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych in Sunday's fiercely fought presidential rematch.

A glum-looking Yanukovych told reporters, "If we fail, we will form a strong opposition." He did not concede defeat, saying, "I am ready to lead the state," and hinted that he would challenge the results in court. The first official results are not expected until Monday morning.

The exit polls tracked an unprecedented third-round presidential election which was watched by an army of foreign observers stationed at polls to prvent the kind of fraud that sparked weeks or protests in the streets of Kier the capital, and sert a flurry of recriminations foing between Russia and the West faller list month's court-annulled

The state-funded Ukrainian Institute of Social Research and Social Monitoring Center showed Yushchenko winning with 58.1 percent of the vote and Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych garnering 38.4 percent. The margin of error was 2 percentage points.

The Western-funded Razumkov Center of Political Studies and Kiev International Institute of Sociology showed Yushchenko winning with 56.5 percent and Yanukovych collecting 41.3 percent of the vote, with no margin of error

A third exit poll, by Frank Luntz, a pollster for the U.S. Republican Party, and Douglas Schoen, of the Washington-based market research company Penn, Schoen & Berland, showed Yushchenko winning with 56 to Yanukvoych's 41 percent, Schoen said. The margin of error was 2 percentage points.

The contest was a momentous political event for Ukraine, a nation of 48 million people torn between an eastward-expanding European Union and NATO, and an increasingly assertive Russia, its former imperial and Soviet-era

Yushchenko, a former Central Bank chief and prime minister, hopes to take Ukraine closer to the West and to push through economic and political reforms. The Kremlin-backed Yanukovych, the current prime minister, emphasized tightening the Slavic country's ties with Russia as a means of maintaining stability.

means of maintaining stationity. Yushchenko has promised to uproot the corruption which saw the former Soviet republic's wealth concentrated in the hands of about a dozen businessmen. Yanukovych has promised to continue work to boost Ukraine's economy — which enjoys the fastest growth rate in Europe — and pledged an increase in wages and

Private and government aid teams sent to southern Asia countries hit by major quake

BY FRANCES D'EMILIO

The Associated Press

ROME — Private and government aid teams were flying Sunday from several European capitals to southern Asian countries swamped by waves after the region was rocked by the world's most powerful quake in 40 years. Pope John Paul II lent his moral voice to calls for the international community to help.

The International Red Cross in Geneva issued an initial appeal for donations of \$6.7 million in cash, relief goods or services for the next six months.

The 8.9-magnitude quake off the Indonesian island of Sumatra triggered devastating tidal wave flooding.

"Thousands have already died because of the flooding, but unless there is a rapid response to the emergency, many more people could die in the coming days," said Jasmine Whitbread, international director of the aid group Oxfam. "The flood waters will have contaminated drinking water and flood will be scarce."

Said David Alexander, international director of the British Red Cross: "We are in for a big emergency disaster response, and we will be at it for many months to come."

President Bush expressed his "sincere condolences" Sunday to the victims of the massive earthquake and tidal waves that hit southern and southeast Asia.

"The United States stands

Earthquakes' deadly toll

Earthquakes are one of the most deadly natural disasters and can claim lives by the thousands. The earthquake that hit Sunday has killed at least 7,000.

Deadly earthquakes, since 1902								
DATE	LOCATION	DEATHS						
1976	China	255,000						
1920	China	200,000						
1927	China	200,000						
1923	Japan	143,000						
1948	Turkmenistan	110,000						
1908	Italy	70,000*						
1932	China	70,000						
1970	Peru	66,000						
1990	Iran	40,000*						
1935	Pakistan	30,000*						

Source: U.S. Geological Survey
ready to offer all appropriate assistance to those nations most affected," the president said in a
statement issued aboard Air
Force One

Hours after Europe woke up to the news of thousands of deaths and wide areas of evacuated villages in Sri Lanka, Indonesia, the Maldives and elsewhere, the pope coupled his prayers for the victims "of this enormous tragedy" with an appeal to the international community to quickly act.

In Britain, Save the Children

said a team was flying out Sunday night to help workers already in Sri Lanka, and World Vision, another aid group, said its staff in the region was delivering aid to those in need. In Sri Lanka, World Vision said, two workers were putting up 100 people in their homes.

The Italian Foreign Ministry's crisis unit was coordinating EU aid efforts, and Italy, Sweden, Germany and Britain were among the first to send teams of technical experts.

"We are doing all we can to offer practical help and support," said Britain's International Development Secretary Hilary Benn.

The German government released emergency aid funding. In Austria, relief officials and charities such as Caritas and Volkshilfe issued urgent appeals cash donations.

The Dutch Red Cross was flying in blankets, tents and medicine, with priority going to Sri Lanka, said Dutch Foreign Ministry spokesman Esther van Damme.

In Brussels, EU Humanitarian Ald Commissioner Luis Michel aid it was important to bring aid "in those vital hours and days immediately after the disaster." The 25-nation EU will deliver million \$4 million in emergency aid as a start.

The Greek Foreign Ministry said a C-130 cargo plane was ready to offer assistance, and the Kuwaiti government said it was sending \$1 million in aid.

Live on the Economy?

Did you know that Stars and Stripes delivers to addresses on the local economy?

We are expanding our off-base delivery all the time.

Call today and find out if you live within our delivery area.

customerservce@mail.estripes.osd.mil CIV: +49 6151-601-262 • DSN 349-8262



Get the news that affects your life

STARS STRIPES.



IN THE STATES

Holiday air travel turns into nightmare

Computer glitch cancels Comair flights; US Airways loses track of piles of luggage

The Associated Press

HEBRON, Ky. - Days of bad weather, a computer malfunction and sick airline employees put tens of thousands of travelers in holiday limbo Saturday, with Comain canceling all its flights and US Airways trying to reconnect thousands of pieces of luggage with their owners.

Throngs of waiting passengers milled about at Comair's hub at Cincinnati/North ern Kentucky International Airport. At Philadelphia International Airport, several hundred people stood in long lines at sparsely staffed US Airways check-in counters and piles of suitcases were scattered throughout the baggage claim area.

Cynthia Mayer, waiting to return home to Hilton Head, S.C., on a Comair flight from Cincinnati, lost both her flight and her luggage, and said her earliest flight home would be late Monday night.

"They offered me a toothbrush — a kit
with a toothpaste and a toothbrush,"

Mayer said, chuckling.

Comair, a Delta Air Lines subsidiary, canceled all its 1,100 flights on Saturday because computer problems knocked out its system that manages flight assignments, company spokesman Nick Miller said. The cancellations affected 30,000 travelers in 118 cities, he said.

Comair put some of its passenger planes back in the air Sunday and the airline hoped to be operating a full schedule by the end of the week, a spokesman said

"The situation is still pretty fluid. Our goal is to operate as many flights as possible," said Nick Miller, a spokesman for the Delta subsidiary that is based at Cincin-nati/Northern Kentucky International AirComair's computer system that manages flight assignments crashed Friday night after it was overwhelmed by cancellations and delays caused by the winter storm that socked the Ohio Valley. The computer shutdown forced the airline to cancel all of its Saturday flights.

Miller said he did not know how many flights there would be Sunday or the desti-

He said technicians were continuing to repair the computer system.

"Obviously, we're working to get as much of the schedule back up and running in the subsequent days so we can hopefully resume our full schedule no later than the end of the week, sooner if possible," Miller

US Airways, meanwhile, had passengers and thousands of pieces of luggage stranded at Philadelphia International Airport for the third day in a row.

The airline blamed the canceled flights including 143 on Saturday — and baggage backups on severe weather Thursday compounded by record numbers of employees calling in sick, according to a comnany statement.

Systemwide, the airline canceled 80 flights Saturday and 176 flights Friday, airline spokeswoman Amy Kudwa said.

Spokespeople for the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, which represents US Airways baggage handlers, and the Association of Flight Attendants said they had not organized any iob actions.

U.S. Transportation Secretary Norman Y. Mineta has directed senior officials to talk with US Airways management about



Luggage is piled up in the US Airways terminal at Philadelphia International Airport in Philadelphia on Friday. The airline said bad weather caused the problem

problems at the airport, Transportation Department spokesman Robert Johnson said

Philadelphia is a US Airways hub, but the baggage backups extended to other East Coast airports.

In Virginia, hundreds of unclaimed bags from US Airways flights were piled at Richmond International Airport and Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport.

Extra flights carrying nothing but lug-

gage were scheduled to fly from Philadelphia to the airline's bag processing facility in Charlotte, N.C., where workers could help process bags more quickly, Kudwa

Struggling US Airways, bankrupt for the second time in two years, says it needs to drastically cut labor costs if it is to survive beyond mid-January, when its interim financing arrangement with the federal government's Air Transportation Stabilization



Stars and Stripes thanks Rhein Military Car Sales for their enduring support and sponsoring of the newspaper for the R&R Soldiers in transit at Rhein-Main Air Force Base.

Parts of U.S. shiver during frightful Christmas weather

Travel is heavy despite record snowfall and slick highways

BY NATASHA GURAL The Associated Press

Mother Nature delivered a bone-chilling Christmas to much of the nation Saturday, but holiday travelers made it out in droves despite record snow that shut down highways two days earlier in the central states.

South Texas awoke to a rare blanket of snow, when up to 13 inches shattered records for the region. The deep freeze brought Victoria, Texas, its first white Christmas in 86 years and snarled holiday plans for thousands of travelers

"It's totally snowed over," Tawnva Evans, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Corpus Christi, said Saturday.

"It's unusual to see that here." "A bunch of people are excited because it's a white Christmas'

The snow was expected to melt as temperatures warmed into the 30s and 40s throughout Christmas Day, but Evans said some of it could refreeze overnight. Conditions on Indiana high-

ways were improving Saturday. two days after a winter storm dumped up to two feet of snow in some areas, followed by subzero temperatures Indiana State Police said Inter-

state 65 near Seymour was still slick in spots on Saturday, but traffic was moving. They said almost all highways in southern In-diana were still covered by snow

The wintry mix caused hours-long delays on I-65 about midway between Indianapolis and Louisville Vy -- 2011 and Louisville, Ky., on Friday, when several semitrailers were jackknifed or stuck.

Authorities reopened a portion of Interstate 64 from the Illinois state line to Evansville in southwestern Indiana Friday, a day after more than 100 stranded travelers were rescued from their snowbound vehicles, which ham-pered snow and salt trucks from

clearing the highway, police said. In Ohio, about 175,000 homes and businesses remained without power — down from 327,000 on Thursday. Some customers might not have electricity restored until Monday, American Power officials said. Electric

A few small churches in rural areas of south-central Indiana canceled Christmas services, while even more called off Christmas Eve services to keep parishioners off the treacherous road-

Startled New Orleans residents saw snow falling steadily — the first Christmas snow in 50 years and the first time in 15 years the city recorded any snowfall at all.

Freezing rain, sleet and low temperatures forced Louisiana state police to shut down interstates and state highways on Sat-

Also in the South, freezing rain and snow coated parts of the Carolinas on Sunday, knocking out power to thousands of customers and making highways slippery for after-Christmas shoppers.

A layer of ice one-quarter to one-half of an inch thick weighed down branches and power lines in South Carolina's Midlands and Pee Dee regions.

Up to four inches of snow had fallen by late morning in North Carolina's eastern Piedmont and northern Coastal Plain.

2 arrested in church vigil | Immigrant bill might be hard fight for Bush

Man, woman jailed in attempt to keep parish from closing

BY BOB SALSBERG The Associated Press

NATICK, Mass. - Police arrested two parishioners who attempted a vigil to keep the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston from closing their 114-year-old parish, one of 83 churches slated to be shut down or consolidated by year's end.

Anne Green said she and Leo Ryan were handcuffed Christmas Eve at Sacred Heart Church, placed in the back of a cruiser and driven to Natick police headquarters, where they booked on trespassing charges and briefly jailed.

They were released early Christmas morning with orders not to venture within 100 yards of the church, keeping them away from Christmas Mass on Saturday - a day before Sacred Heart is scheduled to shut down.

"This is not the way Catholics usually conduct their business. I never thought it would come to this," Green, 54, said Saturday. She and several other parishio-

ners had stayed in the church after the 6 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass. Late in the evening, two police officers told them to leave church or be arrested, and Green and Ryan declined.

Parishioners at eight other churches were continuing around-the-clock vigils to stave off the closures, which Archbishop Sean O'Malley announced last spring as part of a reorganization plan. The move was in response to declining attendance, a shortage of priests and financial pressure caused in part by the clergy



Churchgoers leave Christmas Day Mass at the Sacred Heart Church in Natick, Mass., where on Christmas Eve two parishioners attempting to start a vigil at the church were arrested and charged with trespassing. The pair were protesting against the scheduled closing of the church.

sex abuse crisis.

Friday's incident in Natick is just the second time a church official has had a parishioner arrested amid the tension over church closures.

A 69-year-old man was arrested after refusing to leave his clos-ing parish in Winchester early last month. Charges were eventually dropped

Most parishioners arriving for Mass on Christmas morning called the incident unfortunate and sad.

"We were hoping it would be peaceful," said parishioner Paul Hegarty. "I have resigned myself to the fact that this church is clos-

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON-President Bush faces a major rebellion within his own party if he follows through on a promise to push legislation that would offer millions of illegal immigrants a path to U.S. citizenship.

Almost no issue divides Republicans as deeply.

To get the guest-worker initia-tive through Congress, Bush will need to go against the wishes of many Republicans and forge bipartisan alliances. That's what President Clinton did in 1993 to win approval for a free trade agreement with Mexico and Canada. over the objections of a large bloc of congressional Democrats

The chance seems slim for finding common ground between those in favor of liberalized immigration laws - Bush, Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., and California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger for example — and those who want fewer immigrants, tougher border controls and harsher penal-

Opposition is strongest among House Republicans.

"In our party, this is a deep division that is growing deeper every minute," says Rep. Tom Tancredo, R-Colo. He heads a group of 70 lawmakers who are against

easing immigration laws. Tancredo said guest-worker proposal is "a pig with lipstick" and will not pass.

Bush asserts that he won valuable "political capital" in the election and intends to spend it. It is not clear how much of that he is willing to spend on the immigra-

Higher on his list of priorities is

system, rewriting the tax law limiting lawsuit judgments and making his first-term tax cuts per-

An estimated 10 million immigrants live in the United States illegally; the vast majority are from Mexico, with an additional million arriving every year.

A hint of the trouble ahead for Bush on immigration came this month when proposals to tighten not ease — border restrictions
nearly undermined a bill to restructure U.S. intelligence agen-

The chairman of the House Judiciary Committee wanted the measure to bar states from giving a driver's license to illegal immi-

The president's plan would grant temporary-worker status, for three years to six years, to millions of undocumented workers. It also would it easier for those workers to get permanent U.S. citizenship.

As governor of Texas, Bush was committed to immigration changes.

As president, he came close to making a deal with Mexican President Vicente Fox in the days before the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. Those plans were put on hold as tighter borders took on a higher priority for the United States.
As a presidential candidate,

both in 2000 and 2004, Bush eagerly courted Hispanics, the fastest-growing ethnic group in the

Bush claimed 35 percent of His-panic voters in 2000 and at least 40 percent last Nov. 2, according to exit polls. That compares with the 21 percent won by Bob Dole in 1996 and the 25 percent that Bush's father got in 1992.

Re-enactors kept from Delaware River again

BY JEFFREY GOLD The Associated Press

WASHINGTON CROSSING, N.J. - Thousands of spectators along the Delaware River were disappointed Satur-day when high, fast-flowing waters forced the re-enactment of Gen. George Washington's historic crossing to be canceled for the third straight year.

The rush of water, caused by recent heavy rains, was too much for re-enactors to replicate the 1776 feat by Washington and his Continental troops that set the stage for key Revolutionary War victories.

Spectators lining the riverbanks in Pennsylvania and New Jersey still got a show as several dozen re-enactors, dressed in period uniforms and clothing, marched with weapons and drums.

"I don't want them to compromise their safety, but I did want to see Washington cross the Delaware," said spectator Paul Schindel.

Although Saturday was sunny, the river was running at 13 mph, about three times faster than normal, and was several feet higher than normal, said officials at Washington Crossing Historic Park in Pennsylvania

Bad weather also forced re-enactments to be postponed in 2002 and 2003, but river conditions in 1776 were even

Washington and his poorly equipped troops made crossed the river in the dark, in driving sleet and with ice on the river. The army went on to key victories in Trenton and Princeton, reversing the declining fortunes of the Continental Army



James Gibson, right, portrays Gen. George Washington in a ceremony Saturday in Washington Crossing, Pa., marking the 228th anniversary of the historic Delaware River crossing.

HOTEL FORSTHAUS BY GARMISCH Take a break... Stay 4 Nights - 5th Night Is *FREE €33 per person, double occupancy, per night Free Breakfast . Family Apartments . Hot Tub Sauna • Dogs Welcome • American Owned Tel: 08824-9120 • Fax: 08824-91214 Email: hotel@forsthaus-oberau.de www.forsthaus-oberau.de



College Republicans' fund raising under fire

THOMAS B. EDSALL The Washington Post

WASHINGTON - The College Republican National Committee is under fire for using front organizations to collect millions of dollars in contributions, including money from elderly people with

dementia During the 2004 campaign, the group sent out direct mail solicitations under such letterheads as "Republican Headquarters 2004" and "Republican Election Com-

mittee One four-page letter asked prospects to send \$1,000 together with an American flag pin for President Bush to wear to "Republican Headquarters" to ensure that Bush knows "there are millions who are giving him the shield of God to protect him in the difficult

In small print at the bottom of one page, the letter notes: "A project of and paid for by College

Republican National Committee." Many donors complained that they thought the money was going directly to the Republican Party. and not to the college group, which no longer is affiliated with the GOP. The controversy over the letters has produced angry responses from leaders of state College Republican chapters, including those in Washington state,

North Carolina and New York.

See more nation stories on Page 16

The University of Washington College Republicans approved a resolution calling on Eric Hoplin. chairman of the national committee, "to take full responsibility for his actions," acknowledge that those actions have substantially harmed the College Republicans grass-roots organization and "promptly resign.

Dan Centinello, New York College Republicans chairman, complained that the national leaders had not taken prompt and decisive action to correct the situa-"I don't want to see hard work of all of us be tarnished by a fundraising scandal," he said.

Internal disputes over fundraising tactics have been brewing among the College Republican groups for at least three years. but they surfaced in late October, after publication of damaging news reports in the Seattle Times and the Durham Herald-Sun.

The Times reported that a number of elderly donors gave far more money than they could af-

In the immediate aftermath Hoplin e-mailed top state officials of the organization telling them not to speak to the news media "We need the story to go away," he wrote. "The story is full of lies and distortions written by a well-known liberal who is out to get us. If the press asks you about it, tell them you have no comment

Hoplin declined to be inter-

viewed for this report.

He told the Minneapolis Star Tribune, "We've come to discover that there are a few donors who have been confused, a few donors who have some form of dementia. who aren't entirely sure of the amount of money that they're givand how often they're giv-believe they were misled will have their money refunded.

NASA eyes parachutes to prevent iet crashes

BY TED BRIDIS

The Associated Press WASHINGTON - Rancher Albert Kolk's small plane banked uncontrollably in darkness over Canada's Monashee Mountains, began spiraling toward earth. "Seat belts!" he barked to his teenage grandson and two young friends. Then he reached for a red lever in the cockpit.

Suddenly, an orange-and-white parachute as big as a house opened above the plane and gently landed his stricken aircraft in

a rocky clearing.

If the maker of the parachute that saved Kolk's life this past spring succeeds, one day commercial aircraft like regional commuter jets may have similar safety systems. First, though, there's the challenge of creating a parachute robust enough to rescue bigger, faster planes

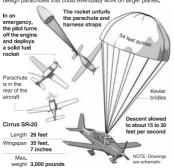
"Weight and speed are always the challenge," acknowledged Robert Nelson, chairman of Ballistic Recovery Systems Inc., which sold about 500 of its \$16,000 parachute systems this year for use by small private planes and pilots

like Kolk. The company's most advanced parachute right now can accommodate nearly 4,000 pounds. While small planes can weigh up to 2,000 pounds and cruise about 175 miles per hour, regional jets weigh 80,000 pounds and fly at

more than 600 miles per hour. That's why Ballistic Recovery

Just a plane parachute

Ballistic Recovery Systems manufactures parachutes for small planes such as the Cirrus SR-20, and is working with NASA to design parachutes that could eventually work on larger planes.



Sources: Ballistic Recovery Systems Inc.: Cirrus Design Corp

Systems is working with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration - which gave it \$670,000 for research - to design a new generation of emergency parachutes that would work on small jets and could be steered by

pilots as they drift to the ground Kolk, who was piloting his private plane April 8 from Seattle to his ranch in British Columbia, remembered reaching for the parachute handle as his plane slipped into a dangerous flat spin over the mountains in British Columbia.

"like how a dog chases its tail.

cases where parachute-equipped planes landed safely beneath a canopy since U.S. regulators approved the system six years ago Ballistic Recovery Systems, based in St. Paul. Minn., says eight lives were saved in those four incidents, plus dozens of other people in accidents involv-ing smaller parachute-equipped ultralight planes that resemble

motorized gliders. The parachute, stored behind the rear seats in small planes, is fired with a rocket through the rear windshield; it's attached with high-strength lines to the

Ancient village's remains halt bridge construction

TOMAS ALEX TIZON Los Angeles Times

SEATTLE - If it had been just one skeleton, the project would have continued. Even a few dozen skeletons might not have been enough to persuade have been enough to persuade
Washington state officials to
abandon a \$283 million
bridge-repair project along the
Strait of Juan de Fuca, about 65

miles northwest of here. But what construction workers stumbled upon went beyond anything ever found in the Pacif-

Northwest: an ancient Indi-44 We started out an village dat-ing back 17 cenfixing one kind turies, dance lodges, of bridge, but we halls and cemeteries contain-ing hundreds of skeletal reended up findina a bridae into mains. So far, nearly 300 comthe past. plete skeletons have been un-earthed, many Doug MacDonald

Washington state secretary of them buried of transportation in clusters, including entire extended fami-

Men and women lay in ritual embrace. Infants were buried with mothers, the young and the old lay side by side, as many as

11 in one grouping. "This is just the tip. There could be thousands of people buried there," said David Rice, a senior archeologist for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Seattle, who characterized the site as potentially the largest prehistoric village and burial ounds ever found in the Unit-

Rice said parts of the village, which has been identified as the ancient settlement Tse-whit-zen. were at

The skeletons are believed to be the ancestors of the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, who still live near the site, just outside Port Angeles. The leaders of the 900-member tribe asked the state to halt the construction project. In a letter to transporta-

an Frances Charles explained that the daily exhumations

overwhelming everybody." Last we week, 15 months and \$58 million

project, the state complied heavy ma chines rum-Construction workers began packing up.

The project, part of a major verhaul of the aging Hood Canal Bridge, which connects the Olympic Peninsula to the rest of the state, is on hold.

"Money is money, and we regret we couldn't have made the decision earlier so we could have saved some," said Doug MacDonald, state secretary of transportation. "But what has been discovered has an importance that money can't value. We started out fixing one kind of bridge, but we ended up finding a bridge into the past.'





STARS STRIPES | LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THOMAS E. KELSCH, Publisher THOMAS BIERMANN, General Manager, Europe LT. COL. CYRIL J. SOCHA, Commander

News and Editorial

News afto Editorial Director DOUG CLAWSON, Managing Editor ROBB GRINDSTAFF, Associate Editor ROBB GRINDSTAFF, Associate Editor SAM AMRREIN, Europe Bureau Chief SCOTT BURGESS, Middle East Bureau Chief JOE GROMELSKI, Electronic Edition Editor ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITORS: Peter Photikoe Photo/Granhics

Sharon Olson News

Addresses

U.S. MAIL: Unit 29480, APO AE 09211 INTERNATIONAL MAIL: Postfach 1330, 64345 Griesheim.

FAX: DSN 349-8416; civ. (+49) (0) 6155/601416 E-MAIL: News - news@ma3 ---

FAL LIST 369-3415, 0V. 149) (10) 153-0101415 FAMIL Vens: new6/g/mail extingues out at 500, Washington DC CENTRAL OFFICE: 520 14th Street RW. Saite 500, Washington DC 20045-1301. Phone DSN 3127-55-9000 or civ. (+1) (2007 761-9900. Fax (+1) (2007, 761-0890 ENTOPMAL DIRECTOR: David Mazzarella, 529 14th St. RW. Saite 350, Washington, DC 20065-1301. Phone DSN 3127-763-4945 or civ. (+1) (2027, 971-6945).

azzarellad@stripes.osd.mil OMBUDSMAN: Joe Ungare. Send comments to: Ombudsman, Stan and Stripes, S29 14th St. NW, Suite 350, Washington, D.C. 20045-1301. Phone civilian (+1) (401) 364-6032; fa (+1) (401) 364-8696;

or p.mail. ombudeman@strings and mil

How to call us

Editor: DSN 349-8237: civ. (+49) (0) 6155/601237 Letters: DSN 349-8400: civ. (+49) (0) 6155/601400 Sports: DSN 349-8225: civ. (+49) (0) 6155/601225 Circulation: DSN 349-8437; civ. (+49) (0) 6155/601437 Advertising: DSN 349-8335/443; civ. (+49) (0) 6155/601335/443

News Bureaus

GERMANY (country code +49)

Bamberg: Rick Emert, 279th BSB, Unit 27535, Box 23541, APO AE
00139-7535, tel. DSN 469-7957 or iv. (0) 951/36896; fax DSN
469-8007 or iv. (0) 951/300-8007;
e-mail: emertr@mail.estripes.ost.ml

Baumholder: Terry Boyd, 222nd BSB, APO AE 09034; tel. DSN 485-6089, or civ. (0) 6783-900776; e-mail:

mail.estripes.osd.mil boydt@mail.estripes.osd.mil Darmstadt: Kevin Dougherty, Unit 29480, APO AE 09211; tel. DSN 349-8406 or civ. (0) 6155-601406:

349-3406 or cir. (I) 6155-61406; -- mails dougherik/comal astripus out mit. Ward Sanderson, (inf. 2480), APO AE 1921.1 til. USN 349-8356 or cir. (i) 615-64152 or cir. (ii) only a strategie of the strategie out and out of the strategie of the strategie of the strategie of the cir. (ii) 615-601279, --mail. injag(Grmal astripus out mil or the diduleze/Mannieris on R. Anderson, Room 117, Romertz. 194, 63113 Haddlezey, 1st. USN 370-7010 or cir. (ii) 6221/600554; arc cir. (ii) 622274241; --emila.

nderson/@mail.estripes.osd.mil.

Kaiserslautern/Spangdahlem: APO AE 09227-3717; tel. DSN 489-5885 or civ. (0) 631/52104 or (0) 631/57140; fax civ. (0)

TIALY Aviano/Vicenza: Kent Harris, Ist I DSN (314) 632-7652 or civ. (39) 034-68-7652; second line DSN (314) 632-4252 or civ. (39) 034-68-8252; e-amila harris/cominal satripses and Majelse Sandra India alason Caudy, PSC 810, Ben 56, FPO &E 09619; Ist I DSN 626-5157 or civ. (+39) (081) 586-5157; fax DSN 626-5150 or civ. (+39) (081) 586-5157; as more civilian and civili iontzs@mail.estripes.osd.mil: chudvi@mail.estripes.osd.mi

SPAIN Rota: Scott Schonauer, PSC 819, Box 1, FPO AE 09645; tel. 727-1099 or civ. (+34) (956) 82-1099; fax DSN 727-10: civ. (+34) (956) 82-1034

RAF Mildenhall: Ron Jensen, Building 465 ECSS-UK, RAF Milden APO AE 09459; tel. DSN 238-4868 or civ. (+44) 1638/544868; fax civ. (+44) (0) 1638/718013; 1638/544868; fax civ. (

nail.estripes.osd.mil WASHINGTON D.C.

#WS-Influority Duck

Bureau editor: Patrick Dickson, 529 14th Street NW, Suite 350, Washington DC 20045-1301; tal. (+1) (202) 761-0859;

e-mail: dicksonp@stripes.osd.mil

Lisa Burgess, tel div. (+1) (703) 692-1875; and Leo Shane, 529

ab bulgess, let V(+1) (v0.92-167), and bed simely de-14th Street NW, Suite 350, Washington DC 20045-1301; tel civ (+1) (202) 761-1183; fax civ. (+1) (202) 761-0890; e-mail burgessl@stripes.osd.mil and shanel@stripes.osd.mil

Printed in Italy by Editrice Telestampa

Stars and Stripes (USPS 017252) is published daily (except Christmas and New Year's) for 50 cents daily and \$1 Sunday by the Stars and Stripes central effect, \$29,4140 S. NW. Stars \$50, Washington (2.0065-130), Ferd odicats pootage paid at Washington, D.C. Postmaster. Send address changes to European Stars and Stripes, Unit 29400, APO AE 09211.

© European and Pacific Stars and Stripes 2004

This reexposes is sufficiently for publication by the Department of De-tects for installing of the Milliam Systems exercises. However, the con-tention of the Milliam Systems exercises. However, the con-leands as the efficial select of the effects of the U.S. European Command. As a Doll-cate that the efficience of the U.S. European Command. As a Doll-cate of the efficience of the U.S. European Command. As a Doll-cate of the efficience of the U.S. European Command. As a Doll-cate of the efficience of the U.S. European Command. As a Doll-cate of the European Command of the European Command. As a Doll-cate of the European Command Command Command (European Command C

able for purchase, use, or patronage without regard to race, color, religion sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affilia tion, or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user, or patron.

GIs in Kuwait on same team

Why is it that almost every letter to the editor from Kuwait, especially those relating to some issue of security or uniform correction, is harshly criticized by someone in Iraq with the quote "I invite the writer to visit my camp in Iraq." all troops serving in Iraq: Please realize that we here in Kuwait cannot just jump into our our unarmored, unescorted military vehicles and travel to your camp in Iraq as if on a Sunday morning drive from our homes to the local Wal-Mart just to compare how tough your lives are to ours, no matter how petty some of these issues may be.

Second, although not as often, even here in Kuwait, terrorism can raise its ugly head at any place, any time. Also, all personnel in Kuwait, both military and civilian, are here because someone decided that we were needed more here in Kuwait than up north, just as they decided that you were needed in Iraq.

Like it or not, our being here in Kuwait does not make us any less of a servicemember or an American than you are We in Kuwait may not face the same dangers as you do, but we are here for the same cause, are on the same team and are also far away from our families. friends and country just as you are. Every day, we are continuing to help prepare incoming units to go north with supplies, maintenance, transportation, training logistics etc.

Here in Kuwait, we admire you and pray for your safety for what you face in Iraq every day, so please keep up the good work, be safe, Godspeed — and stop

> Sgt. 1st Class Errol Lorenzy Camp Behring, Kuwait

Many testify to Arafat's legacy

To the writer of the letter "Arafat lega cy not yet realized" (Dec. 1): I feel obligated to inform you that, unfortunately, Yasser Arafat's legacy has been realized Just ask Mark T. Parson, John Martin Linde Jr. or John Branchizio (all three were U.S. contractors assigned to the American Embassy in Tel Aviv, Israel). But that's right, you can't ask them, because they're dead. But you can ask their widows and children.

These men were part of a Department of State security detail who were killed by a roadside bomb in the Gaza Strip. The organization that was responsible was Fatah, a terrorist organization created, sponsored and led by none other then Yasser Arafat.

If you can't reach them, maybe you could ask the victims of the suicide bomb ers who were inspired by Arafat or acting under his orders. Or better vet, perhaps the Palestinians, who live in poverty while his wife reportedly received more than \$11 million between July 2002 and September 2003 from the Palestin-

Tell us what you think

Stars and Stripes welcomes your comments on editorials and columns that are published in the newspaper and values letters on topics of importance in the lives of our readers. All letters must be signed, and must include the writer's address or base and telephone number. Please limit all letters to 300 words. We reserve the right to edit letters for length, taste and clarity.

Send your letters to-

II S Mail-International mail-Stars and Stripes Stars and Stripes Postfach 1330 Unit 29480 64345 Griesheim APO AF 09211

Via fax: [Country code +49] (0) 6155/601395; DSN 349-8395

E-mail: letters@mail.estripes.osd.mil

ian Authority, could testify to his legacy. Or even better, why not ask the Marines who are dead as a result of the terror tactics that Arafat inspired throughout the Muslim world?

If that is not enough, ask the dead soldiers from the Persian Gulf War what they think about Arafat's support for Saddam Hussein and his anti-American posi-

Why not ask the families of the nearly 3.000 Americans killed on Sept. 11, 2001. what they thought about the pictures taken by CNN the next day of Palestinians burning U.S. flags and crying tears of joy in the streets of the West Bank and Gaza Strip that Americans were killed? Do you think they hate Americans naturally or did Arafat's support for Palestinian Authority-sponsored anti-American rhetoric and incitement in schools. mosques and newspapers have something to do with it?

Maybe you should be more concerned with the spirits of your fellow Americans and Marines who are dead as a result of Arafat's legacy then the spirit of a terrorist with American blood on his hands.

Capt. Adam Jonasz Camp Arifjan, Kuwait

'Inspiration' already exists

In response to the writer of "Need inspiration column" (letter, Oct. 16): Perhaps you should be more specific in your request. If you are looking for inspiration in a newspaper, try reading the articles and divining how these topics apply and influence your actions.

If you need to be inspired for human dignity, compassion and expanding knowledge, read the articles about servicemembers (your friends and neighbors) who work to provide shoes, clothing and medical care and build schools in war-torn countries. Generosity and commitment can be found in articles celebrating volunteers within our community. Justice and democracy abound within these pages in features about candidates and international debates and polices.

If you need some uplifting, read the comics or the travel section. When looking for thankfulness, humility and introspection, consider all of our people wounded and killed and the families and

comrades left behind. If what you are really asking for is a daily public statement professing and confirming your personal belief system, buy a book or a calendar. If this is not possible at your location. I would be hanny to send you a variety of inspirational articles so you can continue building your own theology based on your experiences, values and beliefs.

> Michelle Pojani Ramstein Germany

Inspiration column good idea

I think that an inspiration column is a great idea. I figure the pagans have their horoscopes, so why can't those with a faith have a column that will give them a regular dose of what they crave? I would read the column and I am sure many ser vicemembers would. Even those who do not regularly attend services, but consider themselves religious, might benefit from a little guidance within their faith group every once in a while.

It breaks my heart that the writer of the letter "Keep religion in church" (Nov. 14) would resort to religious bigotry and say the things he said. It's obvious that he lacks something in his life. If he doesn't want to read the column, so what? I don't read the sports section, but I am not about to launch a string of hate to ward sports fans. What has this world come to?

> Cpl. Gerald Hillis Al Asad, Iraa

Thanks to caring radio team

I wanted to write a letter to officially recognize Chicago radio personality Steve Dahl. For those who haven't heard of him, he has been on Chicago radio for more than 25 years. It is true that the world has become a much smaller place; via Internet connection I was able to bring a small part of the States here to Logistics Support Area Anaconda. His talk radio program is funny and makes you miss home just a little less, especially during the approaching holiday season. To hear local Chicago radio ads in the middle of the Iraqi desert made me smile.

The whole group on his show - Dahl. Buzz Killman and Wendy Snyder — has presented listeners in Chicago with some of my insights and have raised awareness for deployed troops. The program's producer, Dan Falato, has been instrumental in sending the maintenance section in our Chinook unit several large care packages from the show's sponsors. We are very grateful and thankful for the support and generosity.

Snc. Joseph Marle Logistics Support Area Anaconda, Iraq BY GARRY TRUDEAU

Doonesbury









STARS AND STRIPES WEB SITE: WWW.STRIPES.COM

OPINION

Why not hold Rumsfeld to same standard?

praising Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld last week, my mind strayed to the story of two Army reservists who've served months in





the brig. Maj. Cathy Kaus and Chief Warrant Officer Darrell Birt arrived in Kuwait in March 2003 but their unit didn't get enough trucks to carry crucial equipment into Irag. So the two officcommandeered ers some abandoned Army trucks by the roadside loaded up, and headed

Their reward? A court-martial for theft, and dishonorable dis-

"The soldiers were held accountable for their actions," an Army spokesman said. In other words, Kaus and Birt were punished for breaking the rules so their troops could carry out their mission

But no one holds Rumsfeld accountable for undermining the mission and undercutting the troops

The recent flap over unarmored Humvees and Rumsfeld's flip remarks to a reservist who complained about having to scavenge

for armor — are part of a bigger pattern.

There's a reason why 50,000 reservists were sent to war in 2003 with outdated body armor, and why families had to raise funds to send their loved ones Kevlar vests with ceramic plates. There's a reason so many Hum-

vees and trucks are still unarmored. There's a reason Kaus and Birt had to imrefused to recognize the nature of the situation into which he sent those troops

Rumsfeld was so eager to test out his new lean military machine that he didn't want to plan for the likelihood of instability after Saddam Hussein fell. The State Department, the CIA and many military commanders urged that more forces be available to establish order after the war. No way, said Rumsfeld.

According to the Pentagon, the aftermath of the war was supposed to be easy. No military police were sent in to stop postwar looting, which encouraged the rise of the insur-gents. Pentagon officials talked about drawdown to 50,000 U.S. troops by fall of

No wonder no one paid attention to the re-servists. They weren't supposed to be on the front lines. The Pentagon never contemplated the prospect of an insurgency, in which the front lines are everywhere.

Even as the insurgency took root — in the fall of 2003 — Rumsfeld refused to admit the situation was urgent. As late as this month he tried to blame the shortage of armored humvees on lack of production capacity.

Yet the manufacturers of Humvees and armored plates for the U.S. military say they aren't running near canacity. They say the Pentagon just hadn't asked them to produce

Rumsfeld's fierce resistance to admitting to problems has cost U.S. troops dearly. ... The exit date of U.S. troops depends, as President Bush admits, on when Iraqi armed forces are capable of securing their country. Rumsfeld's mismanagement en-

sures that date won't come any time soon. In March, the secretary claimed that Iraq had 200,000 security forces "taking over re-



sponsibility for the country." This puffed-up figure was meaningless; most were untrained police or security guards, not forces trained to fight insurgents.

President Bush admitted last week that the results of U.S. training efforts were "mixed, in terms of standing up Iraqi units who are willing to fight.'

Why such poor results? Again, responsibility lies with Rumsfeld.

For nearly a year after Baghdad's fall, the Pentagon preferred to pursue its political vision of a new kind of Arab country without an army rather than equip Iraqis to fight their own bad guys.

PAGE 15

Rumsfeld chose to disband the Iraqi army, instead of vetting and retraining some units. He nixed Iraqi Prime Minister Ayad Allawi's plan to bring back five Iraqi army

Irag's security forces and our own have been bitterly served by these lapses. Isn't it time that someone on high - rather than loval reservists — is held responsible for the Pentagon's mistakes?

Trudy Rubin is a columnist and editorial-board member for The Philadelphia Inquirer.

Military transformation among secretary's successes

By Newt Gingrich

he recent calls for Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld to step down provide a good opportunity to step back and review his record from the last four years Shortly after Mr. Rumsfeld began what

would be his second tour of duty as secretary of defense, he would do what it takes to begin transforming the military and its supporting bureaucracies into a force capable of meeting the threats of the 21st century. In his 2001 Senate confirma tion hearing, Rumsfeld testified, "The old deterrence of

known. Mr. Rumsfeld took control and led the remarkably successful campaign in Afghanistan, which led in short order to the defeat of the Taliban and the destruction of its terrorist training camps.

Even during ongoing military campaigns, Mr. Rumsfeld never wavered from his objectives. In the summer of 2003, in order to accelerate transformation in the Army, he brought Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker out of retirement to become Army chief of staff. [They were] able to move personnel from noncombat to combat units, enabling them with additional reorganization to create 15 newly restructured combat brigades.

Also, because of Mr. Rumsfeld's plan, our military is more flexible, more agile and better able to fight unconventional enemies.

Moreover, he was able to move military personnel out of jobs that should be and are now held by civilians. Under this reorganization, Army troop levels increased (by gades, making a draft unnecessary despite ome critics' claims that one was imminent. At the same time Mr Rumsfeld directed the global war on terrorism through the Spe-

30,000), as did the number of combat bri-

cial Operations Command. The effort has helped other countries hunt down, capture or kill terrorists in dozens of countries. The combined effort has resulted in three-fourths of al-Oaida's senior leadership being killed or captured, while the organiza tion's mastermind, Osama bin Laden, remains a powerless international fugitive

Finally, there is Iraq. The military per-formed brilliantly in the 23-day campaign led by Gen. Tommy Franks that defeated the erous Iraqi dictator, Saddam Hussein.

Today, Mr. Rumsfeld is working closely with the ambassador to Iraq, John D. Negroponte, to help create an interim government, build up the Iraq military and help Iragis regain control over their own country

Yet Mr. Rumsfeld is a target for those who either oppose American military involve-ment in Iraq or lack the ability to understand or communicate the difficulty and the importance of defeating the insurgency and creating a stable elected government.

Mr. Rumsfeld, standing on his remarkable record of achievement, is far too effective a defense secretary for any serious student of recent American history to think that he should be replaced. With Mr. Rumsfeld at the helm, the U.S. military has defeated two terrorist regimes, giving more than 50 million people a chance at freedom

[T]he most compelling reason to keep Mr. Rumsfeld as secretary of defense may simply be that there has not been another attack on our homeland since Sept. 11.

Mr. Rumsfeld's critics are off the mark. The military, under Mr. Rumsfeld's leadership, is our finest example of what works. Newt Gingrich, a Georgia Republican, was speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives from 1995 to 1999. This column first anneared in The (Baltimore) Sun

Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY



The Democrats: I'LL GET DOWN ON THEIR LEVEL, "T RESOWE AND talk to EM to GET to KNOW FACE-to-FACE.... FOLKS IN THAT HEARTLAND PLACE .. NHATS ALL I NEED to DO, AND I'LL GO FAR.

implementing the necessary changes Most notably, he undertook an extraordi narily complicated set of negotiations with our allies to move forces from obsolete and expensive Cold War positions in Europe and East Asia to much more useful and less expensive positions from where they can be more effective in defending America

the threats of the 21st century and for maintaining stability our new security environ-

In the face of enormous internal opposition, Mr. Rumsfeld, who under President Ford directed a military that stood ready to

face the might of the Warsaw Pact, began in

the summer of 2001 to transform the de-

fense bureaucracy by forcing it to recognize

that the Cold War was over. He then began

the Cold War era is im-

perfect for dissuading

Just weeks after Mr. Rumsfeld's Defense Denartment transformation plan had begun the United States was attacked on Sept. 11

By now the response to that attack is well

Don't mess with Texas' filmmaking industry

Officials react as nearby states seek to siphon off some of the business

BY KELLEY SHANNON The Associated Press

AUSTIN - Cameras keep rolling on Texas movie sets, but nearby states are grabbing a piece of the action

Directors Robert Rodriguez Richard Linklater made films here in the past year. And Burnt Orange Productions, an upstart Austin for-profit venture that works with University of Texas film students, shot its first picture and plans many more.

Film industry insiders, though, warn that the state must work to retain the film business that blosomed over the last decade or risk losing it to nearby states where financial incentives are attracting producers.

"Filmmakers tend to follow filmmakers. If there's a hot spot, they're going. New Orleans is a hot spot right now." said Tom Copeland, director of the Texas Film Commission.

The commission is looking at new ways to promote the Texas movie-making infrastructure. Specific proposals are expected in the 2005 state legislative ses-

Austin city officials are working on similar strategies. A city study released in August pegged the economic impact of film and visual media on the city at \$360 million annually. MovieMaker magazine just named Austin the top location in the nation to live

Filmed in Texas

The movie industry in Texas took hold in the 1990s. Here are some of the movies filmed in the state over that time peri-

"The Alamo," 2003 "Jimmy Neutron: Boy Ge-nius," 2001 "The Life of David Gale,"

"Traffic," 2000
"Miss Congeniality," 2000
"Spy Kids," 2000
"All the Pretty Horses,"

1999 "The Faculty," 1998 "Selena," 1996 "Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls," 1995

"Dazed and Confused," 1992 ".IFK " 1991 "Slacker," 1990 Source: Texas Film Commission

and make movies. Houston was No. 10.

Filmmakers often praise the diversity of locations near Austin. and the fact that crews, equipment and studios are already in

Texas gives moviemakers some sales tax exemptions, but other states are "literally throwing money at people to get them to come there," Copeland said.

In Louisiana - where, unlike



Carolyn Pfeiffer, at Burnt Orange Productions' studios Dec. 13 in Austin, Texas, is president and CEO of the upstart for-profit venture that works with University of Texas film students. Texas officials also are looking at ways to strengthen the state's flourishing film industry.

....0.377

on crews.

Texas, there is a state income tax - moviemakers can get investor tax credits and payroll credits. New Mexico also provides tax incentives and recently announced funding to train film technicians.

Texas film industry experts

worry about losing the state's all-important crew base — the be-hind-the-scenes people who tend to sets, operate cameras and work

in production Our crews are leaving and going to work on films in Louisiana and New Mexico. I hear it almost every single day," said Caro-lyn Pfeiffer, president and chief executive of Burnt Orange Productions

Producer Elizabeth Avellan who makes movies in Austin with her husband, Rodriguez, said professional, hard-working crew members in Texas are a big attraction. Rarely, she said, do they encounter "whining" or "drama"

"Drama takes a lot of time, and time is money in the movie business," Avellan said. "When you have crews that are professional and know what they're doing, you get it done faster. The couple's Texas-made films

include the "Spykids" movies. Rodriguez and Avellan live in 44 Filmmakers tend

to follow filmmakers. If there's a hot spot, they're going. 77

> Tom Copeland director of Texas Film Commission

Troublemaker Studios, and shoot 80 percent or more of their mov-ies in Texas. They don't intend to be lured to neighboring states, Avellan said But Texas should try to per-

suade filmmakers not to flee, she said, praising the bipartisan movie industry support shown by Texas leaders

A total of \$304.7 million from 51 projects flowed into film production in Texas this year by early December, Copeland said. State and local officials are well aware of that economic impact.

Republican Gov. Rick Perry ioined governors from the three other most populous states this year to urge Congress to stop filmmakers from making movies in other countries because it is so much cheaper. The governors asked Congress to allow immediate expensing of production costs for some U.S.-made films.

Every production dollar gener-ates from \$2 to \$5 in revenues in a local economy, the governors

In the Austin area, Burnt Orange Productions has plans to become a larger part of the econo-

Burnt Orange, working with the University of Texas Film Insti-tute, wants to produce eight to 10 commercially viable, ture-length films in its first three years, in the budget range of \$500,000 to \$3 million per pic-

Almost all the movies will be filmed in central Texas.

About 30 students - some naid but most earning internship credworked on the recently filmed Burnt Orange movie "Dot, a dark teenage thriller set in Connecticut but made in Austin.

"Our goal is that eventually stu-dents will be taking on roles of greater and greater importance," Pfeiffer said

Singer John Mayer gets cold shoulder at school ceremony honoring him

FAIRFIELD, Conn.

my Award-winner John Mayer re-turned to his alma mater to be inducted into its Hall of Fame and wound up in the headmaster's office.

The 27-year-old guitarist and singer, a 1995 graduate of Fair-field Warde High School, decided

to attend the induction ceremony but v was barred because of what school officials said were security concerns. They said they had not expected the pop star to at



"We were not ready for John Mayer," said Jim Conley, chairman of the school's Hall of Fame committee

Mayer said he was taken to the headmaster's office, where officials stalled him until the ceremony was under way and then walked him to his car. "It was hurtful," he said Thurs-

day.
Headmaster James Coyne said he explained to Mayer that he was "concerned for his welfare and for the welfare of the students."

contents."

Coyne said the star wasn't escorted from the premises. "We accompanied him to his car."

Mayer said he initially was not able to attend the ceremony, but changed his mind. He said he intended to donate a guitar he used

on tour.
As he approached James Blake, a professional tennis play er who also was inducted with golfer J.J. Henry, a former teach-er took Mayer by the arm and led him into Coyne's office, Mayer

"So there I was," Mayer said, "I could see James out there with his mom and the whole thing's going on and I'm in the office.

Mayer won a best male pop performance Grammy for the 2001 single "Your Body Is a Wonder-land." This year, he's nominated in the same category and for song of the year for "Daughters," off his new album, "Heavier nis new Things."

EXCHANGE RATES

Bahrain (Dinar) British pound Canada (Dollar)

Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7812
Hungary (Forint)	.183.25
Iceland (Krona)	61.925
Israel (Shekel)	4.3365
Japan (Yen)	104.08
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2946
Norway (Krone) Philippines (Peso)	6.1914
Philippines (Peso)	56.08
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.75
Singapore (Dollar)	1.6396
South Korea (Won)1.	.053.50
Switzerland (Franc)	1.1523
Turkey (Lira)	,889.00
(Military exchange rates are	those
available to customers at military	bank-
ing facilities in the country of iss	uance
for Japan, South Korea, German	v. the
Netherlands and the United Kin	adom.
For nonlocal currency exchange (i.e., purchasing British pounds in G	rates
(i.e., purchasing British pounds in G	erma-
ny), check with your local military	bank-
ing facility. Commercial rates are	inter-
bank rates provided for reference	when
buying currency. All figures are f	oreign
currencies to one dollar, except f	or the
British pound, which is represen	ted in
dollars-to-pound, and the euro, wi	hich is

PRECIOUS METALS

INTEREST RATES

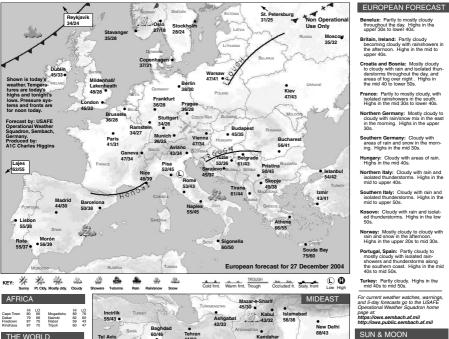
ents and Sensibility Money tip of the day

Military info online By NANCY DUNNAN

Whether you're active, retired or a prospective member of the Armed Forces, you'll find something of interest at www.FirstGov.gov.

The military section of this government Web site covers a wide variety of topics, including current military news, info on ROTC and everything you need to know about benefits and retirement, family support, training and education, special home loans and life insurance.

Financial adviser, economist and security analyst Nancy Dunnan is the author of "How to Invest \$50 to \$5,000." She writes a weekly column for theonlineinvestor.com



First qtr. 17 Jan 05 Full moon 25 Jan 05 THE UNITED STATES TODAY

TODAY'S STATESIDE OUTLOOK

Riyadh Rio de. Jar

26 59 38

65 28

Cairo 71/49

15 PClsly 88 PClsly 88 PClsly 88 PClsly 88 PClsly 88 PClsly 88 PClsly 83 PCl PCally PCally Car Car Snow PCally Car PCally 27 PCoby 42 Ct 21 PCoby 19 PCoby 25 Ct 22 PCoby 38 PCoby 38 PCoby 49 PCoby 49 PCoby 49 PCoby 49 PCoby 19 Coby 19 Coby 11 Snow 33 PCoby 11 Snow 21 PCoby 22 PCoby 19 Coby 23 PCoby 24 PCoby 19 Coby 25 PCoby 26 PCoby 27 PCoby 27 PCoby 28 PCoby 28 PCoby 29 PCoby 29 PCoby 20 PCoby 20 PCoby 20 PCoby 20 PCoby 20 PCoby 21 PCoby 22 PCoby 23 PCoby 23 PCoby 23 PCoby 23 PCoby 24 PCoby 25 PCoby 26 PCoby 27 PCoby 27 PCoby 28 PCoby 28 PCoby 28 PCoby 29 PCoby 29 PCoby 20 PCo 82 43 POly 22 6 13 POly 22 6 13 POly 22 6 13 POly 22 6 13 POly 24 15 POly 24

43 45 52 47 46 47 24 18 30 32 40 23 20 19 23 28 35 11 31 47 19 34 44 21 59 34 11 11 7 San Antonio San Diego San Francisco San Jose San Juan,PR. Santa Fe St Ste Marie Savannah PCity PCity Cli Cli PCity PCit

82/60

rn U.S. time 111 777/ ,,,,, 3333 Ô

Scheduled to ETS or PCS

41/32

Kuwait City

Check our Relocation Guide every Saturday to find Realtors at your new station.



PAGE 18 · STARS AND S

Flu shots available

MA BOSTON State making flu vaccine shots available to people 50 and older. The state imposed restrictions in October after British regulators unexpectedly shut down a major U.S. vaccine supplier over concerns about bacterial contamination. In early December, with sup-

plies increasing, the Department of Public Health lowered the minimum age to 65 and eased some other restrictions.

Dude, we want Dell Inc.

NC WINSTON-SALEM — The city and surrounding Forsyth County proposed giving a combined \$37.2 million to Dell Inc. if it builds a computer plant there. Dell could hire more than 2,000 workers for its new Yriad plant. Guilford and Davidson counties have offered lower incentive deals. Dell announced last month it would move to the region after the Legislature agreed to incentives totaling \$242.5 million.

Hazards of watching TV

TX HOUSTON — A car plowed into an apartment and ran over a man who was lying in bed watching television, but the man suffered only minor injuries.

Willmon Guillory, 56, was trapped under the car for 40 minutes. He was treated and released from Memorial Hermann Hospital, a hospital spokeswoman said.

Firefighters said three young people were in the car that plunged through a brick wall of Guillory's apartment and into his bedroom. All three fled.

Home's nurse attacked

CA PERRIS — An 87-year-old man visiting a family member at a convalescent home allegedly shot a nurse in the face after he became angry about the care the relative was receiving, authorities said.

The nurse was listed in critical condition at a nearby hospital, Riverside County sheriff's spokesman Dennis Gutierrez said. Minutes after the afternoon

shooting at the Ember Care Health Center in Perris, authorities arrested Norman Larson of Sun City for investigation of assault with a deadly weapon, Gutierrez said.

Center employees had detained Larson by the time deputies arrived.

Baby suit thrown out

SC COLUMBIA — The state Supreme Court threw out a "wrongful life" lawsuit claiming a doctor failed to tell a pregnant woman about her son's severe birth defect.

Jennie Willis contended she would have legally aborted had she known when she was pregnant that most of her son's brain was missing, according to her lawyer, O. Fayrell Furr Jr. The lawsuit was filed by Willis on behalf of her now 8-year-old son, Thomas.

In a unanimous ruling, South Carolina's high court said it recognizes the severe nature of the boy's



condition, but it could not accept the wrongful birth claim.

South Carolina joins 27 other states that either reject or limit the "wrongful life" claim, the court said. California, Washington and New Jersey are the only other states that allow such claims.

YMCA rentals banned

CHICAGO — A YMCA director has been fired and overnight facility rentals banned after the parents of young children arriving for a morning swim meet clashed with participants in an overnight transgender fashion show and ball.

Greg Weider, who had been acting director of the New City YMCA for two years, was fired. Programming manager Michael Horton, who oversaw scheduling at the center, resigned two days earlier.

Police and private security guards were called after some parents used sexual slurs, and scuffling broke out, authorities said. No arrests were made.

Cyclists defend rights

NY NEW YORK — The city's bid to force cyclists to obtain permits before their monthly bicycle rally through Manhattan was dismissed by a federal judge.

U.S. District Judge William H. Pauley III said the issue should be



Snack time

Pike, a 22-year-old polar bear, digs into a Christmas present at the San Francisco Zoo in San Francisco on Christmas Eve. resolved in state court.

Cyclists had argued that since no one claims to organize the Critical Mass rallies, issuing permits would have been difficult

City lawyer Sheryl Neufeld said the city was considering an appeal.

The bike rides, which started in San Francisco in 1992 to make a statement about cyclists' rights, have become large enough in New York that police tightened the rules, leading to the arrest of hundreds of cyclists days before the Republican National Convention.

Pauley noted that police had not required permits for nearly a decade and had even aided the rallies by blocking cross-town intersections and letting cyclists run red lights.

Attorney Norman Seagal, who represented five cyclists who had their bikes seized, said he hoped the judge's argument "will deter the city from seeking to appeal."

Saving trees

ME HASTINGS — When Earl Marian sends birthday wishes to his brother, he can count on getting the same exact birthday wishes from Floyd Marian the next month.

It's a card-swapping tradition that started in 1975, when Floyd first received the birthday card from his brother.

In it, Linus of the Peanuts comic strip tells the reader, "This is the age of ecology! Don't throw this

card away. Recycle it to a friend."
Floyd took the advice and sent it
back to Earl. Earl followed suit the
following year. And so on and so

For 29 years the brothers have kept their same-card exchange going, freshening the card up with one-line messages that now have taken up most of the card's open space.

Floyd, 80, receives the card each year around his Dec. 10 birthday, then kicks it back to Earl, 73, in time to acknowledge his birthday on Jan. 31.

"It's getting worn out a little bit," Floyd said.

Drivers' licenses revoked

VA RICHMOND — A total of 237 drivers are losing their Virginia licenses because of suspected fraud by a former Department of Motor Vehicles worker who allegedly sold driver's licenses for un to \$2.500 each.

The department will be mailing letters containing the cancellation orders to the drivers this week, with the revocations effective immediately.

All the drivers received licenses over the last 1½ years from a former DMV employee at the agency's office in north Henrico County who has been charged with illegally selling documents.

Two weeks ago, the agency sent letters to 250 drivers telling them to turn in their licenses and reapnly for them.

An unknown number of the 250 affected drivers turned in their licenses, she said, but could not meet the state's licensing requirements and walked away without a new driver's license



On a mission stations of his mission to bring clean water to willages in Sudan, at the Downtown United Presbyterian Church where he works as a clerk in Rochester, NV. Dut is one of the thousands of "Lost Boys of Sudan" who spent over a decade fleeing war and famine before landing in America.



SOUD'S OID Glenn Harris, left, gets chicken soup from Kim Snyders, second right, and sandwiches from Patricia
Bates, right, as members of Gods Filling Station Full Gospel Church serve
meals to the needy in front of the Department of Social Services building
in Asheville. N.C.



Protesters on the prowl Lisa Franzetta, campaign coordinator with People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, left, and Melissa Garcia, a volunteer with PETA, protest as they skate around wearing painted-on leopard spots Pershing Square's downtown ice rink in Los Anzeles.



3 lucky pigs Three hogs walk in the snow after getting out of a barn that caught fire near Stockwell, ind. More than 500 head of hogs were in the barn. Some of the hogs were able to be saved. Fire officials would not say what the cause of the blaze was.



Back on track

A car of the newly reopened Las Vegas Monorail pulls into the station at the MGM Grand. The brand-new system, built by Canada's Bomardier Corp., had been closed since mid-September due to safety concerns.



Octavio Pescador runs along the beach in Santa Monica, Calif., on Christmas Eve, with temperatures near 70 degrees.



Shining through the pitch-black darkness of an early winter morning, Christmas lights cover this home in Shawnee, Okla.

New low on welfare

MD ANNAPOLIS — Figures from the Maryland Department of Human Resources show the number of people in Maryland receiving welfare benefits last month was 66,725. That's the low-set number since December 1963. Officials say the numbers have fall—on steadily since a 1996 federal law limited the duration of benefits.

Road projects delayed

MONITCOMERY Newsing steper mistakes in advertising steper mistakes in advertising steper mistakes in advertising steper mistakes on advertise
projects have delayed road
projects five times since late 2003
and cost the state \$202.534, state
transportation officials said. State
transportation officials said. State
taw requires the projects to be advertised once a week for three
weeks before bids are opened. If
not, the bid process must start
over.

\$5M in child support

MIL LANSING — Attorney General Mise Cox said his office has dramatically increased back child support collections. The office collected \$5 million between July and December, the same amount it collected between April-2003 and this July, a Cox spokesman said. The number of workers dedicated to collecting back child support has been increased from 10 to 33.

No more discount

WI TRENTON — Motorists who use E-ZPass on the New Jersey Turmpike will lose their 15 percent discount for rush hour and weekend tolls beginning Jan. 1, 2006. The move is expected to generate as much as \$17 million and will allow officials to borrownents without paying higher interactions of the control of

Vandals taint landmark

HARPERS FERRY — Vandals marred a popular landmark that Thomas Jefferson called one of nature's "most stupendous scenes," defacing with paint a famous slab of shale known as Jefferson Rock.

The rock, offering a sweeping view of where the Potomac and Shenandoah rivers meet in Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, was damaged in the evening or early morning. "It looks like the entire rock was dipped into paint," park Superintendent Donald W. Campbell said Thursday. No arrests had been made.

Jefferson hiked to the spot in 1783 and described it as "perhaps one of the most stupendous scenes in Nature" in his book "Notes on the State of Virginia," telling readers its scenic vista was "worth a voyage across the Atlantic."

Park officials have begun to remove the oil-based paint from the well-grooved slab with chemicals.

3 arrests in bird caper

DECATUR — Authorities charged three men in connection with the decapitation of birds at Decatur's Scovill Zoo, saying they urged a 15-year-old to break into the zoo on Halloween

and helped cover up the crime.

Police released documents that described it as a theft attempt gone awry. They said the teenager, arrested last month, had been urged by the three to steal chickens from the zoo no Cct. 31.

The following day, zoo workers found two Chilean flamingoes and a white pelican mangled in their

Chief Park Ranger Ward Davis said authorities believe the teen went after the birds after being unable to find any chickens. In court documents, authorities said the 15-year-old strangled and decapitated the flamingos and stomped on the pelican before decapitating it. The case against the teen is pending.

Sean M. Riley, 26, Lloyd G. Pringle, 19, and Brandon Gossard, 19, were arrested in connection with the bird deaths. Park officials say the community has raised more than \$14,000 to replace the birds.

Pink slips at meatpacker

WICHITA — A Kansas meatpacker, hit by the loss of lucrative export markets because of fears of mad cow disease in American beef, is cutting 150 jobs and reducing production at its slaughterhouse.

Creekstone Farms Premium Beef blamed its inability to do the kind of testing for mad cow, or bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), that would appease overseas customers.

"What we predicted has happened — that is, we are not able to ship because we are not testing. We are not doing what the customer wants. We continue to think that is wrong," said Bill Fielding, Creekstone's chief operating officer.

One year ago, the nation's first case of mad cow was discovered in a single animal in Washington state. Many nations, including Japan — with sales exceeding \$1.7 billion in 2003 — then closed their borders to U.S. beef imports.

Creekstone Farms wanted to test all the cattle it slaughters for the disease. The Department of Agriculture has refused to allow such comprehensive testing.

Traffic dispute escalates

RI LINCOLN — A Woonsocket man was restrained at gunpoint by a state Department of Environmental Management officer after a traffic dispute.

Stephen Chauvin, 24, was

charged with felony assault with a dangerous weapon. The DEM officer spotted him walking from his parked car toward another motorist with a 2-foot-long retractable baton on Route 116 shortly after 9 a.m.

Chauvin and the other driver

had both pulled over to the side of the road.

The DEM officer witnessed the confrontation and ordered Chauvin to put the baton down. When he failed to comply, the officer drew his weapon.

Chauvin then stopped and was later charged by police.

Police said Chauvin was carrying the baton because he uses it in his job as an armored-car driver, The Providence Journal reported in Thursday's editions. Chauvin appeared in District

Court and was released on personal recognizance.

His next court date is Jan. 4.

Night lights

Stories and photos from news wires

		Undated enoute Est	AFR	TS Televisio	n Schedule	te at http://mwafn.dodeadia	oed mil/	
Updated sports listings are available on the first Scoreboard page in the sports section or AFFVs Web site at http://myafn.dodmedia.osd.ml//								
	(AFN-FAMILY)	(AFN-MOVIE)	(AFN-EIROPE)	(AFN-KOREA)	(AFILHENS)	(AFN-SPORTS)	(SPECTROM)	(AFN-PACIFIC)
	The Wild Thornberrys Hyena.	Movie ("In the Best Interest of the Children" (1992, Dra-	Dr. Phil	Jeopardy! Headline News	The Beltway Boys	SportsCenter NBA Baskethall Teams to Be	30-Minute Meals	Jeopardy!
	The Wild Thornberrys ChalkZone	ma) Sarah Jessica Parker, Sally	(9:46) Oprah Winfrey	Headline News ESPNews	Fox News Watch Bulls and Bears	NBA Basketball leams to Be Announced, (Taped)	Paula's Home Cooking Designers' Challenge	Headline News ESPNews
	ChalkZone (EI)	Struthers, Elizabeth Ashley.	(:35) Guiding Light	Advisory Block	Cavuto on Business	ranouncos (rapos)	Fashion Emergency	AFN Evening News
	Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius	(10:49) Movie (* "Police Acad-	(.55) Guiding Light	60 Minutes	Dateline NBC		The Soup	60 Minutes
	Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius	emy 4: Citizens on Patrol"	(:17) General Hospital	oo miinaco	Date in the Control of the Control o		The King of Queens	oo miiidaa
12:00	Kim Possible	(1987) Steve Guttenberg.	Headline News	Without a Trace 'Sons and	1	SportsCenter	That '70s Show	Without a Trace "Sons a
	Kim Possible "Royal Pain"	Coming Attractions	Judge Judy	Daughters"] ·	Girlfriends	Daughters"
13:00	Planet's Funniest Animals	Movie (* "Hope Floats" (1998) Sandra Bullock. A newly di-	Today	24 "Day 3: 7:00 AM - 8:00 AM"	Fox and Friends		Charmed Demons attempt to	24 "Day 3: 7:00 AM - 8:0
	Movie (* "Anastasia" (1997, Adventure) Voices of Meg	vorced single mother finds love				NBA Fastbreak	kidnap Piper's baby.	
14:00	Rvan, John Cusack.	in her hometown.		Pacific Report The Tonight Show	Fox and Friends	College Basketball Slam Dunk and 3-Point Contest, From San	Ally McBeal "Boy's Town"	Pacific Report The Tonight Show
4:30 5:00	Funniest Home Videos	(:10) Movie () "About Last	Aladdin "Garden of Evil"	The lonight Show	American Morning	Antonio. (Taped)	Any Day Now "In Too Deep"	The lonight Show
5:30	Full House (Part 2 of 2)	Night" (1986) Rob Lowe. A	ChalkZone (EI)	Late Show	American morning		Ally Day NOW III 100 Deep	Late Show
	Pokémon	couple tries to build upon an initial one-night stand	Mucha Lucha	Late onon	CNN Live Today	Beyond the Glory	ER "A Thousand Cranes"	Luic Gilon
	Yu-Gi-Oh!	Initial one-night stand.	Kim Possible (EI)	Access Hollywood	1			Access Hollywood
	Aaahh! Real Monsters	Access Hollywood	Jeopardy!	Headline News	1	SportsCenter	Law & Order "Hunters"	Headline News
	Rocket Power		Headline News	The Late Late Show				The Late Late Show
	SpongeBob SquarePants	Entertainment Tonight	ESPNews	L	FOX News		The Simpsons	
	Rugrats (EI)		AFN Evening News	Dennis Miller	50V N	NFL Primetime	Everybody Loves Raymond	Dennis Miller
	Lizzie McGuire Taina "Test Friends"	Movie (* "Serendipity" (2001, Romance) John Cusack, Kate	60 Minutes	Countdown With Keith Olber-	FOX News	Cellege Conden	To Be Announced	Countdown With Keith
	Taina "lest Friends" Smallville "Drone"	Beckinsale.	Without a Trace "Sons and	Countdown With Keith Olber- mann	FOX News	College Gmday College Football MPC Com-	Law & Order A vigilante priest	Countdown With Keith mann
0:00	Jimaniville Dittie	(:45) Movie (I* "Little Women"	Daughters'	Entertainment Studios.com	I OA News	puters Bowl Fresno State vs.	kills a drug dealer.	Entertainment Studios
1:00	Boy Meets World	(1994, Drama) Winona Ryder,	24 "Day 3: 7:00 AM - 8:00 AM"	NFL Monday Quarterback	Studio B With Shepard Smith	Virginia. From Boise, Idaho.	American Hot Rod "Alumatub	NFL Monday Quarterb
1:30	Boy Meets World	Gabriel Byrne, Four New Eng-		Headline News	The state of the s	(Live)	4"	Headline News
2:00	The Cosby Show	land sisters embrace life during the Civil War.	Headline News	Good Morning America	Your World With Neil Cavuto		Friends	Good Morning Americ
2:30	Home Improvement		The Tonight Show	1			Seinfeld (Part 1 of 2)	1
23:00	Touched by an Angel "God	Movie ("The Specialist"			Lester Holt Live		Seinfeld "The Finale"	1
3:30	and Country"	(1994) Sylvester Stallone.	Late Show			College Football	Blind Date	
				TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2				
	Aaahh! Real Monsters	(11:00) (("The Specialist"	(11:30) Late Show	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	(11:30) College Football Motor City Bowl Connecticut vs.	Late Night With Conan O'Brien Music guest Aimee Mann, MTV	
	Rocket Power	(:45) Movie ("Police Academy 2: Their First Assignment"	Access Hollywood	Bear in the Big Blue House	NBC Nightly News ABC World News Tonight	Toledo, From Detroit, (Live)	personality and CNBC talk-show	Bear in the Big Blue H
	SpongeBob SquarePants Rugrats	(1985, Comedy) Steve Gutten-	Headline News Monday Night Countdown	Connie the Cow Wheel of Fortune	CBS Evening News		host Daisy Fuentes.	Connie the Cow Wheel of Fortune
2:00	Lizzie McGuire	berg, Bubba Smith.	monday Night Countdown	Dr Phil	The NewsHour With Jim		Law & Order A vigilante priest	Dr. Phil
	Taina "Test Friends"	Coming Attractions	ł	Di. Filli	Lehrer		kills a drug dealer.	Di. Filli
	Smallville "Drone"	Movie (* "Serendipity" (2001.	NFL Football Philadelphia Ea-	Oprah Winfrey	Hannity & Colmes	Figure Skating Grand Prix Fi- nal. From St. Petersburg, Rus-	American Hot Rod "Alumatub	Oprah Winfrey
3:30		Romance) John Cusack, Kate	gles at St. Louis Rams. From		· .	nal. From St. Petersburg, Rus-	4"	
4:00	Boy Meets World	Beckinsale.	the Edward Jones Dome in St. Louis (Live)	NBC Nightly News	Headline News	sia. (Taped)	Friends	NBC Nightly News
	Boy Meets World	(:45) Movie ()* "Little Women"	Louis (Live)	Judge Judy	Nightly Business Report		Seinfeld (Part 1 of 2)	Judge Judy
	Sesame Street (EI)	(1994, Drama) Winona Ryder, Gabriel Byrne. Four New Eng-		Access Hollywood	Lou Dobbs Tonight		Breathingspace Yoga	Access Hollywood
5:30		land sisters embrace life during	0 - P - V	(:25) Guiding Light		0	Caribbean Workout	(:25) Guiding Light
	Barney & Friends (EI) Blue's Clues	the Civil War.	Headline News Headline News	(:13) General Hospital	Larry King Live	SportsCenter	Body Shaping TIPical Mary Ellen	(:13) General Hospital
	Dragon Tales (EI)	Access Hollywood	Play With Me Sesame	Larry King Live	NewsNight With Aaron Brown	NFI Total Access	The View	I Spy
7:30	Bob the Builder	Access rionymosa	Bear in the Big Blue House	Larry roing Earc	Including it that Auton Brown	111 E 10001 A00000		Animaniacs
	The Wiggles "Your Body"	Entertainment Tonight	Connie the Cow	All Grown Up	BET Nightly News	ESPNews	Emeril Live	All Grown Up
3:30	Dora the Explorer	-	Wheel of Fortune	Teen Kids News (EI)	Tavis Smiley	ESPNews	1	Teen Kids News (EI)
	The Wild Thornberrys	Movie "Deceit" (2004) Marlo	Dr. Phil	Jeopardy!	Nightline	NBA Basketball Teams to Be	Burt Wolf: Taste of Freedom	Jeopardy!
9:30	The Wild Thornberrys	Thomas, Brett Cullen. A woman makes alarming discoveries		Headline News	Army Newswatch	Announced. (Taped)	Sweet Dreams	Headline News
	ChalkZone (EI)	about her missing spouse.	(9:46) Oprah Winfrey	ESPNews	Hardball With Chris Matthews		Best for Less	ESPNews
0:30	ChalkZone (EI)	(10:48) Movie "Harvey" (1998)	(:35) Guiding Light	Advisory Block NFL Football Philadelphia Ea-	The O'Reilly Factor		Stripped E News	Pacific Report NFL Football Philadel
1:00	Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius	Harry Anderson, Leslie Nielsen	(:17) General Hospital	gles at St. Louis Rams, From	THE O REINY FACTOR	NBA Fastbreak	The King of Queens	oles at St. Louis Bams
1:30	Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius Kim Possible	A man's best friend and confi-	(:17) General Hospital Headline News	the Edward Jones Dome in St.	FOX News	NBA Fastoreak SportsCenter	That '70s Show (Part 1 of 2)	the Edward Jones Don
	Kim Possible	dante is an invisible rabbit.	Judge Judy	Louis.		opo. to cellici	Girlfriends "Leggo My Ego"	Louis.
	Planet's Funniest Animals	Movie (* "Rear Window"	Today	i	Fox and Friends	College Football Motor City	Charmed The Charmed Ones	1
3:30	Wild Thornberrys Movie: The	(1998, Drama) Christopher	"	I		Bowl - Connecticut vs Toledo	team up with a leprechaun.	I
4:00	Origin of Donnie	Reeve, Daryl Hannah.		ESPNews	Fox and Friends	From Detroit.	Ally McBeal "Falling Up"	ESPNews
4:30		(:44) Movie () "Tomorrow Nev-	L	Pacific Report	l			Pacific Report
5:00	Funniest Home Videos	er Dies" (1997) Pierce Bros- nan, Jonathan Pryce, James	I Spy	The Tonight Show	American Morning	ESPNews	Any Day Now "Call Him John-	The Tonight Show
	Full House	Bond tries to short-circuit a	Animaniacs		AND 1	Auto Racing FIA World Rally Championship Pally of New	TD IT I I	
	Pokémon "Sharpedo Attack!" Yu-Gi-Oh!	communications tycoon.	All Grown Up Teen Kids News (EI)	Late Show	CNN Live Today	Championship Rally of New Zealand. From New Zealand.	ER "The Advocate"	Late Show
6:30 7:00	Yu-Gi-Oh! Aaahh! Real Monsters	The Entertainers	Jeon Kids News (EI) Jeopardy!	Headline News	ł	SportsCenter	Law & Order "Disciple"	Headline News
	Aaann: Hear Monsters Rocket Power	The Entertainers	Jeopardy: Headline News	The Late Late Show	ł	Sports Centrer	Law & Order Disciple	The Late Late Show
	SpongeBob SquarePants	Behind the Scenes	ESPNews	1	FOX News	World Sport	The Simpsons	
	Rugrats	Entertainment Tonight	AFN Evening News	Dennis Miller	1	NBA Fastbreak	Everybody Loves Raymond	Dennis Miller
9:00	The Proud Family	Movie ("Scary Movie 3"	Smallville "Velocity"	i	DaySide With Linda Vester	NFL Football Philadelphia Ea-	Star Trek: Enterprise "North	1
9:30	The Amanda Show	(2003, Comedy) Anna Faris,	· ·	Countdown With Keith Olber-	1	gles at St. Louis Rams. From	Star"	Countdown With Keit
0:00	Everwood The doctors investi-	Anthony Anderson.	Movie (* "The Notebook"	mann	FOX News	the Edward Jones Dome in St.	CSI: Crime Scene Investiga-	mann
0:30	gate a 30-year-old murder.	(:35) Movie ("Lost in Space"	(2004, Romance) Ryan Goslino. A man tells a story to	Entertainment Studios.com			tion "Crash and Burn"	Entertainment Studio
1:00	Sister, Sister "The Breakup"	(1998, Science Fiction) William Hurt, Mimi Rogers. A spy sabo-	a woman about two lovers.	The Hot List	Studio B With Shepard Smith		Jamie's Kitchen	The Hot List
	Sister, Sister "The Tutor"	tages a family's space mission	(-15) Headline News	Headline News	VW. 141950 N.312	First and Ten	Friends	Headline News
	The Cosby Show	for humanity	(:15) meadline News	Good Morning America	Your World With Neil Cavuto			Good Morning Ameri
			(-45) The Topicht Show:	1		NEL Livo		
2:30	Home Improvement Touched by an Angel 'Flights	Movie II "Star Trek II: The	(:45) The Tonight Show		Lester Holt Live	NFL Live College Gameday	Seinfeld (Part 2 of 2) The Daily Show	1



Read Stripes online at WWW-Stripes • COM

SCARY Carrey

In his new magical movie, actor has fun putting fear into children of all ages

44 I remember

when I was a

kid just lovina

creepu movies

that scared me

and at the

same time

were funny.

Jim Carrey

BY MIKE SZYMANSKI Zap2it.com

LOS ANGELES - Jim Carrey loves scaring kids. He's played the Grinch in "Dr. Seuss's How the Grinch Stole Christmas," the Riddler in "Batman Forever," the maniacal superhero in "The Mask" — and now he's the sinister Count Olaf in "Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events

"I remember when I was a kid just loving creepy movies that scared me and at the same that scared me and at the same time were funny," says Carrey. "I remember 'Chitty Chitty Bang Bang' with that ... Chil-dren Catcher, who was trying to entice kids out with candy and kidnap them. There were crazy characters that were really scary. Bill Sykes in 'Oliver!' that's not a funny movie, but I love those characters.'

Now he's recreating the neme sis of three orphaned children from a series of books that rivals "Harry Potter" in populari-ty. In the "Lemony Snicket" se-

ries, Olaf takes custody of the children and then tries to kill them in order to inherit their parents' fortune

Carrey says in a press conference that he modeled the character after a little bit of Orson Welles, a bit of the cartoon cereal box character Count Chocula, and bit like a bird of prey. Physically, however, he turned out a bit more famil-

iar.
"I turned out looking like my dad, actually, which is really freaky," he says, pointing out that his family also noticed the resemblance of the older bald sharp-nosed Olaf.

"He's kind of like the funny uncle who gets a little drunk at Christmastime and then turns in the middle of the night. I wanted the danger to

For Carrey, playing dress-up is like Christmas every day. "I love transforming — it's like Christmas morning to me," he says, wearing an uncharacteristic black suit with a blue strined shirt. (He says he's going somewhere important after the interview) "You get into the make-un trailer and you start playing around with things and throwing pieces together. At one point, we had a Don King wig on backwards strapped to the back of my head and I look like a ... hood ornament from a Chevy, it was weird. But we experimented, we came up with 30 different characters that didn't get into the movie. The whole process is exciting. It's such a fun thing to masquerade, period.'

Joining his masquerade in the film are Jude Law, Meryl Streep, Timothy Spall, Jennifer Coolidge, Cedric the Entertainer and British comedian Billy Connolly, who plays another distant relative who's a snake expert and always has a big huge python around his neck.

"Jim would always try to improvise something," Connolly recalls, remembering how in one scene Carrey picked up snake-wrangling stick and putted around a piece of paper using live turtles as obstacles, as if on a miniature golf course. "It was just lovely to see his mind work that way and we all would collarse into laugh.

The children were played by "Road to Perdi-

tion's" Liam Aiken, Emily Browning from "Ned Kelly" and 2-year-old twins Kara and Shelby Hoffman, who alternated as the youngest child, Sunny. Browning says Carrey ate sardines and made his breath disgusting on purpose before shooting scenes with them.
"He always tried to crack us up, and scare us,

too," Browning says. "Gosh, if they put all the outtakes together on the DVD, there'd be seven

more hours of the movie."

Coming up, he's signed to do a big-screen version of "The Six Million Dollar Man," a remake of "Fun With Dick and Jane" and "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty." His wide variety of character ranges represent two sides of himself

"I think the two me's are definitely meeting in the middle in some respects. I seem to have tripped into a time in my career where I have such a diversity of roles, so I feel incredibly



Actor Jim Carrey hams it up at the premiere of "Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events" in Hollywood on Dec. 12. Carrey plays creepy Count Olaf.

Powell takes coveted New Year position

Secretary of State Colin Powell will celebrate New Year's Eve in Times Square as the guest of honor at the 100th anniversary of the world-famous festivities.

Powell, a native New Yorker, will push the button to begin the New Year's Eve ball's descent as an expected 750,000 people swarm Times Square and more than a billion people world-

wide watch on television. "I could not imagine a better way

to ring in the new year than surrounded by the energy and enthusiasm of the American people and those watching on television together in the hopes of a brighter tomorrow," Powell said in a statement. Powell announced plans last month

to resign from the Bush administration and plans to leave early next

"Colin Powell is as New York as you could possibly be," said Mayor Michael Bloomberg, who made the announce-

Royal wedding tapes profitable for charity

Proceeds from DVD sales of Prince Felipe's wedding have been donated to the families and victims of the Madrid train bombings

A palace spokesman said Friday that \$230,375 had been sent to the Foundation for the Victims of Terrorism to be given to the victims of the

March 11 attacks. Bombs tore through four early morning commuter trains in Madrid, killing 191 people and injuring some 1.800

Feline Prince former TV anchorwoman Letizia Ortiz were married May 22. The wedding was filmed by Spanish Television with an agree. ment that proceeds from video sales be given to victims of the attack

Ortiz and Prince Feline

The foundation also represents victims of attacks by the armed Basque separatists group ETA, which has killed more than 800 people since 1968.

Actress breathes life back into Hepburn

Cate Blanchett comes on strong when she first appears as Katharine Hepburn in Martin Scorsese's new Howard Hughes biopic, "The Aviator." She's talking a mile-a-minute in that Hepburn accent.

Blanchett says Scorsese wanted it that way.

"He wanted Hepburn to come into the film with a bang. And so the scene is constructed with her talking her head off," she told AP Radio in an interview, "It's quite an assault on the senses."

Blanchett says Scorsese wanted the audience to ask themselves: "Oh, my God. Is that her? Is that Katharine Hepburn?

"The Aviator" has received six Golden Globe nominations, including best supporting actress for Blanchett.

Smoking may hurt health but helps career

Smoking is bad for your health, but it was good for Hong Kong martial arts queen Yuen Oiu's acting career

Yuen, who appeared in the 1974 James Bond film, "The Man With the Golden Gun." landed a role in "Kung Fu Hustle," which opened in Hong Kong on Thursday, because the director liked the way she smoked, the South China Morning Post reported.

Yuen, a popular stuntwoman and kung-fu actress in the '70s, said she was accompanying a friend to an audition when director Stephen Chow saw her smoking. He was looking for someone who smoked the way she did and urged her to join the cast, she told the newspaper.

Chow, who directed and starred in 2001's "Shaolin Soc-

cer." asked her to play a landlady in his new comedy about gangsters who try to take over a neighborhood full of kung fu masters disguised as ordinary residents.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

Horoscope

The full moon in Cancer vest day likely brought up family and domestic issues that will not be resolved for weeks. New information must be mulled over, sorted through and carefully processed. It's important not to rush ahead with judgment or take action that cannot be easily undone. Reserve the right to

change your mind later. TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (December 27). The thrills you dreamed about as a small child are now re-enter ing your life. Connecting with ambitions of bygone days gives you vitality and optimism - what could be more attractive? The next three months are busy, social and filled with options. But do settle in with someone by April Work and finances go better when your love life is decided.

ARIES (March 21-April 19).

Relationships have seasons Though it may be winter outside, it's definitely spring in a special relation ship. So make sure there's enough rain, in the form of honesty, and sunshine, in the form of fun, to grow this bond

TAURUS (April 20-May 20).

You're trying to make a particularly challenging situation work. Others have done it before you - use the library or go online to find out how they did it. Knowing when to be silent will put you in an excellent position tonight.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21).

Your way of apportioning responsibility is not what the others had in mind. You'll be forced to re-examine your choice. Is it really fair or just convenient? Probably, it's a little of both. Sometimes, you have to say, "My bad."

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The infantile behavior of a full-grown

person is appalling! It would be easy to write this person off as not worth the time, but the fact is, there's something valuable at stake. Find compassion, and communicate.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). It's the kind of day that requires stable

blood sugar to get through - in other words, make sure you're eating often enough to keep your energy high! Others are depending on you to come through for the whole group

Holiday Mathis

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Excellent use is made of your talent for distinguishing the finer points of an argument or deal. For one thing, the specifics make or break a business situation. Also, a vocabulary choice could win a

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Yes, you're widely accom plished, but be careful of

the jack-of-all-trades (master-of-none) syndrome! You're better off homing in on what you do the best and delegating the rest to those who'd love to have the work

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You're not acting your age - depending on the task, you assign a much more mature version of yourself or send a childish part of you to do the job. Either way, there's wisdom in your choice.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You're in a shopping mood for a new job, perhaps, or a new love. "Trying on" the merchandise in vour mind is half the fun. The sexiest thing about you now is your philoso-

phy. Share it with potential partners. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan.

19). You're not willing to spend major time on minor priorities smart thinking. Now, all you have to do is teach certain loved ones to follow your lead on this, and every one can work in the same direction

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Sensational ideas float like dandelion seeds on the wind of your mind. There's no need to force things, as some will plant themselves naturally in the exact right place. Loved ones

are in awe of your process. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). As usual, the person who can help you the most is in close proximity. The problem is, you don't want to ask — there's too much "gunk" in the way of this relationship. Now is

communication.

the perfect day to clear the path of Creators Syndicate

Peanuts

































Eugene Sheffer Crossword

	80.						•••	 -				
1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13					14			
15					T				16		T	
			17		Г		18	19				
20	21	22				23						
24					25				Г	26	27	
28		T		29				T		30	T	31
	32		33		T				34		T	
			35		T			36			T	
37	38	39					40		T			
41					42	43				44	45	46
47					48					T	T	T
49		T	T		50				51		T	l
	Ac	ross	<u>'</u>			Dov	/n		22	Hagar	the	

Across

- counterpart Rather's home
- 8 "Friends" role
- 12 Price-list periodical
- 14 Large show 15 Adam Sandler
- movie 16 Incubator noise 17 "Today" rival, for
- short 18 Begin
- 20 Actor Milo
- 23 A couple of cups 24 Slaughter of
- hasehall 25 "So what?"
- 28 Scoot 29 Mehitabel's pal
- 30 Trot
- 32 Sasquatch 34 Surfboard
- support 35 Kate Hudson's
- mom 36 Spot on TV?
- revived 40 DDE rival
- 41 Bird, to Brutus
- 42 Kid's riding toy 47 Get it off your
- chest 48 Colorless liqueur
- 49 Remnants

I'LL BE

THAT BABY

50 Army rank (Abbr.) 51 Read bar codes

Down Horrible's 1 "Chicago" lyricist

5 Last several notes

7 Ceiling feature

9 The yoke's on

10 Detail, briefly

13 Crimson Tide

6 Physique

8 Character

them

11 Ex-frosh

19 Mayberry

20 "- the

21 Ignore

marshal

ramparts ..

- 2 "The Greatest" 23 Actress Molly 3 Bad hairpiece 25 Take lunch to 4 Sills
 - work 26 Trojan War hero

daughter

- 27 Get a bang
 - out of 29 Way off
 - 31 Solidify 33 Ibsen play
- 34 Desires
- 36 Church array
- 37 Carry on
- 38 Bump-free 39 Predicament
- 40 Not "fer" 43 Chemical suffix
- 44 "The list goes on" 45 Greek vowel
- 46 Author Deighton

intentionally Answer to Previous Puzzle

		~ III	3111	51 (viu	us	•••	122		
В	Α	L	T		М	T	Т	Т		В	Α	G
Ε	L	υ	L		-	0	w	Α		Е	М	υ
О	Α	Т	0		ø	Т	0	Ρ		Α	М	Α
Κ	-	ш	٧		т	Α	В		Р	R	0	М
			Е	Υ	Е		-	М	Α			
Ρ	R	0	Р	Ε	R		Т	0	R	R	ı	D
R	Ε	R	Α	Ν				٧	Τ	0	L	Α
Е	Х	Ε	R	Т	S		L	-	s	Т	Ε	D
			1	L	L		Υ	Ε	Т			
Р	L	U	s		Α	N	Ν		Ε	D	Ν	Α
R	Τ	М		F	L	Ε	Х		Х	R	Α	Υ
Α	М	Ρ		ш	0	R	Ε		Α	0	Ν	Ε
Υ	Ε	S		Α	М	0	s		s	Ρ	Α	s
		_			-	-						

12-27 CRYPTOOUIP FAO'EX R H IXDDRKM

OZERIVNUI VEXXI. FAO

NRMZV

VEF UKB M X V

FAQEIXDH UDD IGEQOXB QG. Saturday's Cryptoquip: I KEEP FAILING TO DIG A GOOD TRENCH, SO I'M PLANNING TO MAKE A LAST-DITCH EFFORT.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: D equals L

Take

TV weather report annoys some

Dear Abby: I have a different sort of pet peeve, but I hope you will let me air it.

The weather reports all start with the terrific computer-generated maps and diagrams presented by both local and national TV meteorologists. However,

they insist on standing in front of their display and waving their arms madly around, which is distracting infuriating, and adds zilch to the report

A typical example: The weather reporter announces the temperature in Boston is 74 degrees, then he walks across the screen to point at the number on the map. Then the reporter shows how a front is moving from the Southwest following the station manager's instructions: "Crouch low, sweep arms around crazily and move to the center of the screen. Stand in front of the home city data

"Smile proudly. Point out the local forecast because the map is now completely obscured. Why can't the old rub-

ber-tipped pointers used by our grade school geography teachers be put back into service? Unlike little children, TV weathercast ers should be heard and not seen - Retired Teacher in Morris.

> ville, N.Y. Dear R.T.: I agree that at times some weather reporters get in the way of the view ing - and your recycling idea has merit I'm printing your sug gestion in the hope that those who need to see it will take it to heart But

I'm not holding my breath, and you shouldn't either. Dear Abby: My

husband, "Graham," and I were married for 11 years. From the beginning, the relationship with his parents was rocky. During the last five years of our mar riage, we hardly spoke to Gra-ham's family at all — his prefer-

Graham died last year, and ever since the funeral his parents have wanted to have a close relationship with me. I am having a hard time with it, since we d no relationship before my husband died. I have children and I think his narents believe that they need to be part of their grandchildren's lives, but what are my obligations toward them? - Frustrated and Alone

in Clovis, N.M. Dear Frustrated: Your children are the only link to their son that Graham's parents have. I'm sure they regret their estrangement from your family more than words can say. Please respect that you are united in grief over the untimely death of your husband. Treat his parents kindly. encourage their participation in their grandchildren's lives, and try to find it in your heart to forgive them. If that's possible, you will all be the richer for it.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at http://www.uexpress.com/dearabby Universal Press Syndicate

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

War of 1812 December 1

etc. etc. etc

er 19

Unscramble these four Jumbles one letter to each square. to form four ordinary words **NEVAK** TYDIT AYGITE

> -ASS. Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

WHAT THE COED

CONCENTRATED

IN HISTOR

(Answers tomorrow)

PENGOS

POISE EMBER UNFAIR METRIC Answer-With everyone home for the holidays, Momand Dad enjoyed their - "PRESENCE"

Family Circus



"Slippers are a really, really casual shoe.

Lack of sex drive ending marriage

Dear Annie: I've been married to "Susan" for over 20 years, and we have two teenage children. Our marriage started out like most - a lot of good times, along with some difficulties, but nothing we couldn't work out. My job involves working shifts with a varied schedule, and 12 years ago, Susan got a full-time job with an ambulance ervice and also work odd shifts. Our social life com-

pletely died. Nine years ago, at the age of 39, my wife needed a full hysterecto-my. After this, our very good sex slowly started to go downhill At first I tried to be understand ing, but the situation didn't improve. My wife insisted there was no problem — but it certainly was a problem for me. I asked her to seek counseling, but she had no interest. I saw a counselor on my own, but was told it wouldn't be much use without my wife's participation.

I thought we could work through our problems, but now

Annie's Mailbox

Susan says if I need sex, I should go out and get it. She has asked for a

separation How can I convince her that we both need to talk to someone?

- Left Out in the Cold Dear Left Out: While we recognize that some women lose interest in sex after menopause (or a hysterectomy), we do not understand why

a loving wife would not make any effort to work on some-

thing that so severely damages her marriage Ask your wife once more to go

with you for counseling in the hope that you can work on this senaration Do not mention sex If Susan refuses, please go back to your counselor and ask for help on the best way to cope with this latest development.

Dear Annie: My mother-in-law is the best person in the

world. She is now in her late 70s and could use some financial support. My husband has six

siblings. All could afford to send \$100 a month to their mother for

medicine and other essentials. We contacted all the siblings and suggested this. Only one responded favorably. In the meantime, my husband is pick ing up the monthly bill for the other five. We have our own children to put through college and this is putting a strain on our

How can we ask again for the other siblings to do their share without causing a family rift? - Caught in the Middle

finances.

Dear Caught: If all the siblings are financially able to send \$100 a month, you should not be afraid to ask them again. And again. Better still, have your husband call a family "council and discuss this together. If \$100 is too much ask them to donate less, but they all should be willing to chip in.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, Iongtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox/ecomcast.net or write to: Annie's Mailbox, comcast.net or write to: Annie's Mailbox, Coreators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd, Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045.

Creators Syndicate









STRIPES SERVICE DIRECTORY



your daily quide to navigating the European Business Market

FOR INFORMATION ON GROWING YOUR BUSINESS WITH THE SERVICE DIRECTORY CONTACT SEAN ADAMS AT CIV: 06155-601203 or DSN: 349-8203

or EMAIL: adamss@mail.estripes.osd.mil

Attornevs Attorney Joe Maiss Full Service Law firm

US & German Divorces ment & Personal Injury

email: maiss@hd-law.de Office: Heidelberg Tel: 06221-727-9595

Guy L. Womack Worldwide Court-Martial Defense

www.GuyWomack.com mail: Guy.Womack@USA.net Phone: (713) 224-8815

LAW OFFICES JOSEPH K. KELSO

U.S. Attorney at Law
Specializing since 1960 in U.S. Federal
Employment Law, Administrative Boarde
Fersonal Injury and Medical Malpractice, 1
Claims, International Contracts and
Immigration Law.
Immigration Law.
Tet: (06108) 79 76 79 Fex; (06108) 79 65 2



www.court-martial-defense.com

Law Offices David Court ne: (069) 30 10 72 Fax: (069) 30 12 68

902

BOTH OF THESE PEOPLE AR ALL TODAY 0700-00-BRACES(272237)

Internet Services 600

PISnet

* DSL FLAT RATE ALL SERVICES AND
 SUPPORT IN ENGLISH

NT RN T ACCESS

www.greennet.de

DSL Flat Rate €29.90 5556 Unlimited Time & Volume or Internet Dial Up Connection Phone: 06731-2348

What's your scene?

MOVIES

TRAVEL

MUSIC

HEALTH & FITNESS





BOOK ONLINE

www.us-discount-travel.com

Discounted Seats to

Merry Christmas from all

of us at US Discount Travel

the States still available! Call toll free 0800-5878359

Mo - Fr 09:00 - 18:00 TUI Sa 09:00 - 13.00

BANDWIDTH TRAVEL A new company meeting

all your airline travel needs Opening hours Mo-SA from 8am - 6pm For Reservations Call: 06781 50 82 759

Military Travel International Over a million airfares worldwide Aschaffenburgerstr 64 * 63457 Hanau fax: 06181-906690 * e-mail: mti@mtitrave Call 06181-906690 Mon - Fri: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. + Sat: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m

www.mtitravel.de DISCOUNT FLIGHTS

Germany to/from U.S.A. - Payment Plan Mετίςan www.flyusave.com

WHY PAY MORE!

7 days a week from 8am-10pm Please call ACS: 069 743 090 10

What's vour



Buy Stripes this Sunday

and every Sunday to get your

scene!





KUWAIT Cell: Via DSN Optr:

SPAIN: PORTUGAL: TURKEY:

MILITEE

944

Sign Up and get a *Free 800 Number from the US!

20c

5.9c

790

9.9c

29c

www.militel.net Fast, Easy Sign Up 24 hrs! Credit Card / US Bank Debitl

Itemized Monthly Billing!

24/7 Live Customer Support!

CALL TOLL FREE 24 HRS

Germany 0-800-1826-224 800-872-252 900-961-539 Spain US Direct 1-402-392-7513 info@militel.net

Transportation

INTERGLOBAL Shipping GmbH ecialized Shipping to/from the US & Canada old Goods, Personal Belongings ur Pra's at the Dacks toda info@interglobalshipping.de www.interglobalshipping.de Tel (0421) 340650 Fax (0421)340 6565

WORLDWIDE SHIPPING AGENCY Ship Cars/Contai to/from USA

Sure, you could get your refund faster. en the IRS gets a drive-thru. File electronically with our Rapid Refund service and get you refund in half the time.

H&R BLOCK

Aschaffenburger Str 66 63457 Hanau

Ludwigshoher Str 139b 64285 Damstadt

Financial Services

Call-Fax-Email for IMMEDIATE SERVICE \$700 - \$15 000

USLOANS For E-Z Online Service, Visit Our Websi
WWW.USLoans.cc Visit Our Website at

. (049) 06371-17222 or E-Mail: USLoansram Toll Free Tel. 0800-USLOANS (875-6267) Hours: Mon-Fri 0900-1800- Open ALL Holiday: screensure: Leading American Military Lenders

U.S Military. Call toll free:

many 0800yesloan Italy/Belgium 00800yesloan: USA 1877omniusa or go to www.yesomni.com

omni

Standard Issue Meets A New Standard

Now Stars and Stripes newspaper is also available electronically. Get your copy for FREE at estripes.osd.mil

STARS STRIPES Wherever You Go, We Go

STRIPES CLASSIFIED

advertise with STRIPES CLASSIFIED

PLACE A PRIVATE PARTY AD IN FOUR SIMPLE STEPS †

- 1. Write an ad (be sure to include the item, price/or best offer (OBO) and phone number).
- 2. Select a 4. 7. or 30 day package.
- 3. Choose a category from the index running most days in Stars & Stripes Classified.
- 4. Decide which day you would like your ad to begin running, and submit with the appropriate payment on or before the deadline listed below. *

MONDAY	DUE NOON THURSDAY
TUESDAY	DUE 4 PM THURSDAY
WEDNESDAY	DUE 4 PM FRIDAY
THURSDAY	BUE / BU MONBAY

	FRIDAY	DUE 4 PM TUESDAY
٦	SATURDAY	DUE NOON WEDNESDAY
	SUNDAY	DUE 4 PM WEDNESDAY

PRIVATE PARTY PACKAGES

- 1. 4 lines for 4 days for \$20.00 (\$5.00 per additional line). §
- 2. 4 lines for 7 days for \$30.00 (\$7.50 per additional line). §
- 3. 4 lines for 30 days for \$55.00 (\$10.00 per additional line). §

† Private Party Rates apply only to individuals advertising personal merchandise or private property

- † Private Party Sates apply only to Individuals advertising personal merical-andies or private property for first also, up to two major treams used a sobar, motor whether obmo. Commercial post personal property for first also, up to two major treams used a sobar, motor whether ober home. Commercial property for property and/or merchandies for rent and commercial operations. Emilgonament Rates apply for allow of the property of the information contact. Star & Stripes Classified.
 * Payment is required in advance in order to publish ass. Acceptable forms of payment include chips and the property of the property of
- it will begin running the next available day. Please allow one extra day for all Federal holidays
- § Classified ad lines include approximately 25 characters (this includes spaces) per line

it's a SNAP

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING COUPON ☐ 4 lines/4 days @ \$20 ☐ 4 lines/7 days @ \$30 ☐ 4 lines/30 days @ \$55

Visa/MC # (circle one): _____ Exp.Date:

Send Payment to:
APO Address
European Stars & Stripes
Classified Advertising Department
Unit 29480, APO AE 09211

Deadline to place, cancel, or make any change to an ad is four business days prior to first date of publication. It's the responsibility of the advertiser to contact European Stars & Scripes Classified on the first date of publication to connect errors. If the a day a hypographical error, that does not affect the integral value of the ed, is e.e., misspelled words: wrong dates, make or nodel listed incorrectly will result in a makingood for one

Announcements ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOL Europe for assistance 49(0)1803-AAHELP

FIND 1000s of shops Shipping to APO PO w.APOFPOShipping

W.OCONUS.COM SHOP AT @OCONUS

AND YOUR PURCHASE(S) MAY BE FREE!

\$2000 ** CASH ** GIVE AWAY

BETWEEN NOV 22 - DEC 22

STRETCH your dollars with

xclusive coupor and discounts! 600+ merchants service & shipping visit us at vw.oconus.com for details!

140

Email:

Autos for Sale Alpha 164 '93, blk, 2.0 V6, turbo, ac, mint cond, 141k km, turbo, ac, milli cons, included leather, heated power si pwr win, dr. \$ 2900, 0175-1063803 or email: Audi A4 '04 corw ,3.01 U.S specs, 10k mil, silv/black interior, premäsport pisc, fully loaded, \$ 37K obo, call 0175-7503269

BMW 730i '89 Gray metalic auto, 130K miles, alu wheels pw, wood tirm, Wiesbaden 9 euor 2,900 call 0178-6711575 BMW M5 '91, blk, 330 hp 6 zyl, 5 sp, 17 rims, tint wind, all-pwr, ets-ing, 193k km \$6500 call 0160-7113621 Bamberg area

01605145659

Dodge Neon ES '00 Red, cc, pw locks/wind, cd, ac, new paint, tires, 30K miles on motor replaced warranty. One owner. \$4,500. 040-86693630 lv msg

Dodge SRT-4 '03 Silv, pw, pd, od, sbry amp, 17 in alu wheels, 3 in custom exhaust, 21K miles, \$16,000 obo, call 0172-1062764 Ford Escort '97, 85k ml, ac, perfect cond in&out, new front tires, books at \$2450 sell on 15 Jan for \$2000. call 06222-662407

Mercedes C180 '00, elagance blue, 5-Sp., ac, new winter and summer tires with rims, 66k km \$15k obo, call 06371-619511 Mercedes E320 '99 Euro spec, loaded + gps, 147k km, dealer serviced, 5b 16,000 euro make offer: paymefirst @yahoo.com

Mini Cooper S '03 US Specs, fully loaded barely been driven leather seats H-K stereo, \$21ko r OBO call ELizabeth 00387-61181480

Auto Parts

Auto Repairs

182

Child Care Offered 290 Jobs Wanted Need Dependable Child Care ?? Live-out Nanny accepting Children, all ages Kit area Heidi 0160-8042445 Nanny Engl. and Germ. speak with exp., avail, in Heidelber and Mannheim area, ca 0171-9902235 or 0175-457847

Looking for responsible Nan-ny, child care and light House-keeping, references required. Call 06131-6231755 Mainz

COMPUTERS

LOW PAYMENTS

Child Care Wanted 300 berg 06221-5899948 after 1800

Autos Wanted

Sport Utility Vehicle 172

Dodge Dakota SLP '03, met-blue, 4dr, 4x4, bedliner, 19500 miles, asking \$23500 call 0160-4796566

Mazda B4000 SE Pickup '03 like new, only 3k mi, 3.5 years full warranty, \$1850 0176-208-24637, www.geo ties.com/mazdab4000truck



Jobs Offered Pets 820

640

Purchase of listed pets is at buyer's risk. German Dog Club e.v. recommends checking breeder's club membership be-lore any purchase and furniture for Sale. PCSing Jan 10th 2005 must sell call 0177-8860993. Heidelberg area. email: colleen_smith@delLcom

weller, pure-bred, from euro 0048 69426-5234 or pup

hund/Scotch Terrier M

pups, all shots, dewormer ready to go, euro 300 ca 0170-5357533 Person to Person 800

Apartment Unfurn 856 anymore. All German laby more 40's from Wuerzburg, seeking serious relationship with US black male. email me: blene. malakirilovweb.de

Apartment Furn 860

arg 1 br apartment, small pentinouse, Sat IV, both AFN and ASTRA rec, big terrace, 700eur ex. gas & elec. call Shiela 06181-15593 Hanua area Temporary lodging, eff apart-ment, fully furn, near Leighton Bks, Wuerzburg, Avail Now, Call anytime 0173-3235091

House Unfurnished 878

bath, large kitchen, gard 140sqm,1000 Euro, St. Le Rot, 15 min from Heidelberg

Sony Military Sales

Is looking for motivated,

independent and dependable account representatives to work in the following stores: Lakenheath, Aviano, Vicenza,

Bitburg, Spangdahlem & Mannheim. Weekend work is expected

and a valid ID card is required

Interested parties should email a resume to: sonyjob@eps-marketing.com

1000 Travel 1000

ng* rau 8 km Hotel Forsthaus Oberau 8 km Nth of Garmisch Hot tub/sauna 33eur PP, DBL occp, free brkfst, dogs welcome. 08824-9120

630

STANDARD ISSUE MEETS A NEW STANDARD



Wherever You Go, We Go

estripes.osd.mil

Military Car Sales

rheinmilitaryhq@t-online.de Tel.: (0931) 2008480 (09721) 675 27 35 / (09721) 803013

www.militarycarsales.org

\$24,995 2003 BMW 325i Sport



\$29,995 2004 BMW 325Xi



\$28,995 2002 BMW 330 Xi 5 Spd. Sunroof, Cruise Control

Best part of rematch is that it is over

The Indianapolis Star

INDIANAPOLIS again, a player went into the stands. Once again, it involved the Detroit Pistons and Indiana Pacers. Can't we all get along? As a matter of fact, we can. His name is Antonio McDyess, the soft-spoken, perpetually easy-going forward for the De-

troit Pistons. Her name is Linda Taylor, a resident of Greenwood, Ind., and on this day, she was sitting in the first row in the southwestern cor-

ner of Conseco Fieldhouse. They met in the second quarter, as McDyess, chasing a loose ball that was heading out of bounds, crashed into Taylor.

Commentary

"A couple of seconds later, we were standing there at the free-throw line, and I saw her leaning over, like she was bleeding from her nose or mouth or something," McDyess said. "I was trying to stop myself from running into her, but I hit her pretty good. I think I got her with

my elbow." Shortly thereafter, a timeout was called, and McDyess went back into the stands.

"You OK?" he asked Taylor as she held a tissue to her face. Her nose was bleeding and there was a cut just above her lip. "I'm realss in her face a second time, laughed.

"You owe me," she told him with a smile. "You owe me." As McDvess returned to the court, the crowd nearby gave him a warm ovation.

It wasn't any grand gesture, nothing that would make the horrific brawl dissipate into the mists of time, but it was honorable and human and decent, and represented everything the vast majority of these guys are all about. On a day when Game 1 was hailed as The Brawl Redux and Game 2 was hilled as The Return of Shaq and Kobe, this little moment was the best moment of all, the one that gave us the best

and most accurate view of people

Be honest now: Didn't the Throwdown in Motown feed into all our worst biases about professional basketball players? That they're arrogant and overpaid, spoiled and immature? For many of the players involved in the fra cas, that was the worst part of the fallout, far worse than the suspensions or the lost salary; that now, fans would see them as bad ac-tors instead of hard-working professional athletes who are husbands and fathers and contributors to the community.

"A lot of people only know me by what they saw on TV," Jermaine O'Neal said after his first game back from suspension. Public perception is no small issue cause the good-guy persona will help him get more endorsements, but because he wants to be seen for who he is. This, remember, is the person who fulfilled a local high school girl's dreams by es-

corting her to her senior prom. What we witnessed Saturday was everything the NBA and these two solid franchises wanted and needed: A tough, well-played game devoid of ugly incidents or misbehavior. It was as if a giant sprig of mistletoe had been hung om the fieldhouse scoreboard So this game, finally, is over, ac-

companied by a giant civic exhala-

"I just think everybody is happy this game is over now, Pacers coach Rick Carlisle said. Linda Taylor, included.

STRIPES CLASSIFIED

ly, really sorry."

Religious Activities



Dear Ladies

Last year, we broke out of the matrix! We found out that we're the one, and for those that are still caught up in the matrix, we're connecting up at the Real Women's Conference January 20 - 22, 2005 and going "Behind Enemy Lines! No Guts! No Glory!"

In Isajah 42:22 in the New Century Translation it says: There are a people that have been defeated and robbed. They are trapped in pits or locked up in prison. Like robbers, enemies have taken them away, and there is no one to save them. Enemies carried them off and no one said. "Bring them back!"

But, the Lord has given me a word out of 1 Samuel 30:8. Pursue! for thou shalt surely overtake them (the enemy), and without fail recover all. It is so important in these last days for us to be in the offense, the position of attack and not the defense. We are the ones that are pursuing, overtaking, and without fail recovering all.

We have a powerful ministry team that will minister to you in the Word and the power of the Holy Spirit. We believe that many will be healed spiritually, mentally, and physically and made whole.

So I encourage you to come out and be a part of something that will impact the lives of women dramatically. We have the "Guts!" and God is going to get the "Glory". I'm believing to see you there.

"GET READY TO CROSS THE LINE!"

Pastor Phyllis D. Lawson Founder RWC

Special Guests Vicki Woho





Theater & Show

For Registration Information: Telephone: 06221-603209 E-mail: realwomensconference@hotmail.com • website: www.jwoc.de For hotel reservations: Holiday Inn . Walldorf . Tele

SCOREBOARD

AFN TV & Radio

ts. 9:30 a.m. – NBA: Dallas at Den

Tuesday

AFN-Atlantic and Radio, 3 a.m.—NFL: Phila-delphia at St. Louis. AFN-Sports, 3 a.m.—Figure skating: GP of Figure Skating Final (dld). AFN-Sports, 9 a.m.—NBA: New York at Or-lando (dld).

ando (dld).

AFN-Pacific, 11 a.m.—NFL: Philadelphia at it. Louis (dld).

AFN-Sports, 1 p.m.—College football: Motor City Bowl, Toledo vs. Connecticut did).

AFN-Sports, 7 p.m.—NFL: Philadelphia at

* Louis (did).

All Times Central European Time; did indi-cates delayed broadcast. All listings are sub-ject to change. Visit www.myafn.net for more information.

Pro baseball

Remaining free agents

NEW YORK — The 105 remaining free agents (a-rejected arbitration and may nego tiate with former team through Jan. 8): late with former team through Jan. 8):

AMERICAN LEAGUE

ANAHEIM (2) — Shane Halter, 3b; Aaron

jele, rhp. BALTIMORE (4) — Marty Cordova, dh; Dmar Daal, lhp; Buddy Groom, lhp; David

signi, dh. (10) — Terry Adams, rhp; a-Pedro BOSTON (10) — Terry Adams, rhp; a-Pedro Statio, rhp; Ellis Burks, dh; Ricky Gutlerrez, bb; Curtis Leskanic, rhp; a-Derek Lowe, rhp; b-Dave McCarty, lb; Ramiro Mendoza, rhp; a-Pokey Reese, 2b; Scott Williamson, rhp. CHICAGO (2) — Roberto Alomar, 2b; Mag-

lio Ordonez, of. CLEVELAND (1) — Rick White, rhp. DETROIT (1) — Alan Levine, rhp. KANSAS CITY (2) — Juan Gonzalez, of; Desi

DE HOVE OFFY (2) — Juan Gonzentz, ...,

Relation, 2b.

NEW YORK (8) — Miguel Cainc, 2b; Tony
Relation, 2b; Long
NEW YORK (8) — Miguel Cainc, 2b; Tony
Relation, 2b; Long
New York

A Charles Sierra, dh; Enrique Wilson, 2b;

OAKLANO (3) — Chris Hammond, lipp; Jim

Mecir, rhip; Mark McLennere, 2b.

Mecir, rhip; Mark McLennere, 2b.

TAMPA BAP (4) — Brook Fordyce, c: Tino

Martinez, 1b; Todd Ritchie, rhip; Rey

Todd Ritchie, rhip; Rey

Todd Ritchie, rhip; Rey

Todd Ritchie, rhip; Rey

Anchez, 2b. — Andy Fox, 3b; Brad Fullmer, It; Rusty Greer, of; Brian Jordan, of; Jeff Nel-son, rhp; Herbert Perry, dh; Jay Powell, rhp; dit Nussy usec.

son, the Herbert Perry, dh; Jay Puwen, ...,
self Zimmerman, rho,
self Zimmer

ATLANTA (1) — a-Jaret Wright, rhp.
CHICAGO (7) — Moises Alou, of, Paul Bako,
c; Tom Goodwin, of, Ben Grieve, of, Mark
Grudzlelanek, b, a-Todd Hollandsworth, of,
Ramon Martinez, ss.
CINCINNATI (4) — Darren Bragg, of, Barry
Larkin, ss; Todd Van Poppel, rhp; Gabe
Wilson Martinez, Ss.

White, lhp.

COLORADO (3) — Jeromy Burnitz, of;
Shawn Estes, lhp; Steve Reed, rhp.

FLORIDA (4) — Chad Fox, rhp; Josias Manzanillo, rhp; Mike Mordecai, 3b; a-Ismael Val-

ez, rhp. **HOUSTON (3)** — a-Carlos Beltran, of; Dan

MINICIAN (3) — a-Carlos Beltran, of; Dan Micell, rh; Darren Oliver, Ihp.

LOS ANGELES (7) — Eimer Dessens, rh; Drod Hundley, c. Bidero Mayne, c. Hideo Trod Hundley, c. Bidero Mayne, c. Hideo Trod Hundley, c. Bidero Mayne, rh; Paul Shuey, rh; Robin Ventura, 1b.

MONTREAL (1) — Tony Batts; App. John New York (4) — Ricky Bottalico, rh; John New York (4) — Ricky Bottalico, rh; John Renco, lh; Mo Waghn, 1b; Todd Zelle, 1b.

Roberto Terran (4) — a-Doug Glanville Celle, 1b.

Roberto Terran (4) — a-Doug Glanville Celle, 1b.

Roberto Terran (4) — a-Milwood, 4b.

Robert

koberto Hernandez, rhp; Kevin Millwood, hp; Eric Milton, lhp.
PITTSBURGH (1) — Brian Boehringer, rhp.
ST, LOUIS (1) — Ray Lankford, of.
SAN DIEGO (6) — Andy Ashby, rhp; Rich Autilla, ss; Robert Fick, dh; Alex Gonzalez, ss;
ave Hansen, Ib; Antonio Osuna, rhp.
kobb (PRAM/OSCO (2) — Dave Burba, rhp;
kobb (PRAM/OSCO (2) — Dave Burba, rhp;

Free-agent signings

NEW YORK — The 102 free agents who have signed, with name, position, former club if different, and contract. The contract information was obtained by The Associated Press from player and management sources:

AMERICAN LEAGUE

AMARIENCAN LEAGUE
ANAMAHEN (A): Signed Steese Finley, of Loo.
ANAMAHEN (A): Signed Steese Finley, of Loo.
signed Esteban Yan, rip, Detroit, to a \$2.25
million, two-year contract: signed Paul Byrd,
rip, Albana, to a \$54 million, one-year conmark.
BALTIMORE (I) — Re-signed B. Surhoff,
BALTIMORE (I

Nille, mp. 3c.

Wov-year contract.

BOSTON (7) — Resigned Doug Mirabelli, c. to a \$3 million, two-year contract; signed Matt Mantei, rhp, Arizona, to a \$750,000, one-year contract; signed David Wells, lhp, San Diego, to an \$8 million, two-year contract; signed John Halama, lhp, Tampa Bay,

to a \$1 million, one-year contract; sign Edgar Renteria, ss, St. Louis, to a \$40 million four-year contract; signed Matt Cleme rhp, Chicago Cubs, to a \$25.5 milli Clement ee-year contract; re-signed Jason itek, c, to a \$40 million, four-year con-

ract. CHICAGO (3) — Signed Dustin Hermanson, hp. San Francisco, to a \$5.5 million, wo-year contract; Signed Jermaine Dye, of Jakland, to a \$10.1 million, two-year con-ract; Signed Orland Hermandez, thp, New look Yankees, to an \$8 million, two-year con-

ract. CLEVELAND (2) — Re-signed Bob Wickman, rhp, to a \$2.75 million, one-year conract, signed loge Hernandez, 2b, Los Angeles, to a \$1.8 million, one-year contract. DetRoil (1) — Signed Troy Percival, rhp, naheim, to a \$12 million, two-year con-

Anaheim, to a \$12 million, two-year com-fact, and the second of the sec

SEATTLE (4) — Re-signed Dan Wilson, c. to SEATTLE (4) — Re-signed Dan wilson, c, to \$1,75 million, one-year contract; signed chie Sexson, 1b, Arizona, to a \$50 million, rur-year contract; signed Adrian Beltre, 3b, S Angeles, to a \$64 million, five-year con-act; announced Ron Villone, lhp, accepted

Los Angeles, to a 94 million, rev-year, chap, accepted salary arthritism, ton Villone, this, accepted salary arthritism, one-year contract signed Sandy Molmar Jr., C. Horisop White Sox, to a 51 million, one-year contract signed Sandy Molmar Jr., C. Horisop White Sox, to a 51 million, one-year contract signed contract (\$385,000); re-signed John Wasdin, rho, a minor league contract (\$555,000); to a \$55 million, one-year contract; signed Greg Colbrun, 1b, Artzona, to a minor league contract (\$650,000); re-signed portract (\$650,000); re-signed Salary Molling Salary S

TORONTO (2) — Re-signed Greg Myers, c, to a minor league contract (\$700,000): signed Corey Koskie, 3b, Minnesota, to a \$17 million, three-year contract.

signed Corey Kosike, 3.b. Minnesofa, to a SIT in million, three-year contract.

BARIZONA (6) — Re-signed Quinton Mc-cracken, of, to a minor league contract to a \$5 million, lou-year contract; signed to a \$5 million, four-year contract; signed was orriz, rho, Allanta, to a \$3 million, Kansas City, to a minor league contract; signed Royce Clayton, sx. Colorado, to a \$1.55 million, one-year contract; signed Royce Contract.

\$1.55 million, one-wear contract: signed into the contract size of the contract re-signed form function. One contract re-signed food million, one-wear contract; re-signed food million, one-wear contract; re-signed food tract signed some fact clears, as, to an \$5 million, one-wear contract; re-signed food million, one-wear contract; signed size of the contract size size of t

Jamey Wright, rhip, to a \$500,000, one-leader, PLODIAS (p. 8 – Resigned Daminot Face), 2b, to a \$750,000, one-year contract, spend warms, to a minor league resigned Lenny Marris, to a minor league contract agent of a spend of the contract agent of a spend of the contract agent of the c

accepted salary arbitration.

LOS ANGELES (5) — Signed Ricky Ledee, of, San Francisco, to a \$2.5 million, two-year contract; signed Jeff Kent, 2b, Houston, to a \$17 million, two-year contract; re-signed Wilson Alvarez, lhp, to a \$4 million, two-year \$17 million son Avarez, rip, to a 54 million, two-year contract; signed Jose Valentin, 3b, Chicago White Sox, to a \$3.5 million, one-year con-tract: signed J.D. Drew, of, Atlanta, to a \$55 nillion, five-year contract.

MILWAUKEE (1) — Signed Damian Miller, c,

TANK McNamara DID YOU GET A TIMO FOR CHRISTMASS

AI, I'M CARTER FINLAY, QUARTERBACK OF THE NEL SMASHERS, ASKING YOU TO THINK BEFORE YOU'TIVO'PAST

THE COMMERCIALS ON NEL GAMES

kland, to an \$8.75 million, three-year con

tract.

MONTREAL (3) — Signed Cristian Guzman, ss, Minnesota, to a \$16.8 million, four-year contract; signed Vinny Castilla, 3b, Colorado, to a \$5.2 million, two-year contract signed Wil Cordero, of, Florida, to a \$600,000,

signed WII Cordero, of, Florida, to a \$500,000.

ne-year contract. Be-signed, kivis Bemson, MRV 1900 K G1.

REV 1900 K G1.

RE

igned Mark Sweeney, of, Colorado 575,000, one-year contract. SAN FRANCISCO (5) — Signed Izquel, ss, Cleveland, to a \$12.25 n

Vizquel, ss, Cleveland, to a \$12.25 million, hree-year contract signed Armando Beni-tez, rhp, Florida, to a \$21.5 million, hree-year contract: signed Mike Matheny, c. \$1. Louis, to a \$10.5 million, three-year con-tract; signed Jeff Fassero, hip, Arizona, to a minor league contract; re-signed Jason Christianson, lhp, to a \$1.15 million,

one-year contract.

JAPANESE CENTRAL LEAGUE

YOMIURI (1) — Signed Gabe Kapler, of, Boston, to a one-year contract

Bowl glance Tuesday, Dec. 14 New Orleans Bowl Payout: \$750,000

Feynout: \$79,000

Southern Mississippi 31, North Tuesday, Dec 21

Tuesday, Dec 21

Tuesday, Dec 21

And And Feynout: \$50,000

Georgia Tec Payout: \$50,000

Georgia Tec Payout: \$50,000

Bowling Green 52, Memphis 35

Fort Worth (Fexas) Ber Payout: \$750,000

Cincinnati 22, 2750,000

Cincinnati 22, 500,000

Wyoming 24, \$750,000

Wyoming 24, \$750,000

Wyoming 24, \$750,000

Friday, Dec. 24 Hawaii Bowl At Honolulu Payout: \$750,000

Independence Bowl At Shreveport, La. Payout: \$1.2 million (6-5) vs. Miami (Ohio

msight Bowl At Pho

Ohio State

Payout: \$750,000 lene (8-3) vs. North Carolina

Lieber, rhp, New York Yankees, To a \$21 mil-lion, three-year contract; announced Placi-do Polanco, Zb, accepted salary arbitration. \$T. LOUIS (5) — Re-signed Cal Eldred, rhp, to a \$500,000, one-year contract; re-signed tract; re-signed Matt Morris, rhp, to a \$25 million, one-year contract; signed Einar Diaz, C, Montreal, to a \$500,000, one-year con-tract; signed Mike Myers, lhp, Boston, to a \$500,000, one-year contract.

Diazz, informedi, to a socoopio, one-year con-trollogo, processing the social processing of the \$300,000 pc. \$100,000 pc

College football

Payor Hawaii 59, UAB 40

Hawaii 59, UAB 40
Monday, Dec. 27
MPC Computers Bowl
At Boise, Idahn
Payouts 750,000
Fresno State (6-3) vs. Virginia (8-3
Motor City Bowl
At Detroit
Payouts 750,000
Toledo (9-3) vs. Connecticut (7-4)
Tuesday, Dec. 28
Inde

insight Bowl
At Phoeinx
At Phoeinx
At Phoeinx
At Phoeinx
Bowl
State (6-5) vs. Notre Dame (6-5)
Wednesday, Dec. 29
Wednesday, Dec. 29
Payouts \$1. million
Paso (6-3) vs. Colorado (7-5)
Alamo Bowl
At San Antonio
Payouts \$1.55 million
Payouts \$1.55 million
Continental Tire Bowl
At Charlotte, N.C.
Payouts \$750,000

TAPPAGE WILL EVENTUALLY REDUCE

RIGHTS FEES NETWORKS PAY THE NFL. THIS WILL AFFECT TEAMS ABILITY TO PAY FOR THE WORKS

IN THE COMMUNITY YOU SEE GUYS LIKE ME POING IN PUBLIC-SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS LIKE THIS...

Payous Troy (7-4) vs. Northern Illinois Friday, Dec. 31
Music City Bowl
At Nashville, Tenn.
Payout \$780,000

Alahama (6-5) vs. Minnesota (1

Purdue (7-4) vs. Arizona State:
Liberty Bowl
At Memphis, Tenn.
Payouts \$1.35 million
Boise State (11-0) vs. Louisville
Peach Bowl
At Atlanta
Payouts \$2.2 million
Miami (8-3) vs. Florida (7-4)

Miami (8-3) vS. Florida (7-4)
Saturday, Jan. 1
Cotton Bowl
At Dallas
Payout: \$3 million
Tennessee (9-3) vs. Texas A&M (7-4)
Outback Bowl
At Tampa, Fla.
Payout: \$2.75 million
Wisconsin (9-2) vs. Georgia (9-2)

n (9-2) vs. Georgia (9-2)
Gator Bowl
At Jacksonville, Fla.
Payout: \$1.6 million
Date (8-3) vs. West Virg
Capital One Bowl
At Orlando, Fla.
Payout: \$5.187 million
Vs. LSU (9-2)
Rose Bowl

Isona (2-7) vs. [32] (2-7)
APA Sandenov, Calif.
APA

East-West Shrine Classic At San Francisco At San rid..... West Saturday, Jan. 22 Hula Bowl At Maui, Hawaii

College basketball

Men's AP Top 25 fared Week of Dec. 19-25 Illinois (11-0) beat Missouri 70-64 Kansas (8-0) beat Wisconsin-Mily

3. Oklahoma State (9-0) beat Northwest ern Oklahoma 92-35. rn Oklahoma 92-35. 4. North Carolina (9-1) beat Vermont 93-65. 5. Wake Forest (10-1) beat New Mexico

5. Ware Force ...
81-64.
6. Duke (8-0) did not play.
7. Syracuse (11-1) beat Cornell 82-69; beat Rice 88-72.

o Manturky (8-1) beat William & Mary

12-47.
9. Georgia Tech (8-1) beat Charleston southern 90-48.
10. Pittsburgh (9-0) beat Richmond 69-60.
11. Connecticut (6-1) beat Central Connect-cut State 87-59.

11 Commedical (6-1) beat Central somework of State (1888) and (1898) and (189

5-54. Washington (8-1) beat Florida pus urristi rozer Washington (8-1) beat Florida 20. George Washington (8-1) beat Florida International 81-71. 21. Mississippi State (11-2) beat Florida A&M 104-80; beat Jacksonville State 95-53.

19. Alabama pus Christi 76-1 20. George

At Maui, Hawaii Aina vs. Kai 7 Saturday, Jan. 29 Senior Bowl At Mobile, Ala. North vs. South

nia (8.3)

Alabama (6-5) vs. Minnesota (6-5) Sun Bowl At El Paso, Texas Payout: \$1.5 million Purdue (7-4) vs. Arizona State (8-3)

s (8-3)

EVEN SALARIES COULD GO DOWN,
AFFECTING THE QUALITY OF THE
NFL GAME ITSELF. IF YOU WANT TO
ZAP COMMERCIALS ON ANY
OTHER PROGRAMMING, LIKE,
SAY, THE NBA-HAVE AT IT. (B-Ser.

22. Cincinnati (9-0) beat Jackson State 95-43; beat La Salle 84-63. 23. Michigan State (7-2) beat UCLA 76-64. Emerald Bowl At San Francisco Payout: \$750,000 7-4) vs. Navy (9-2) Holiday Bowl At San Diego avout: \$2 million 23. Micrigan State (1-2) beat OCLA 76-64. 24. Maryland (7-2) beat American 82-61. 25. Virginia (8-1) beat Loyola Marymount 9-77, OT. At San Diego
Payout: \$2 million
10-1) vs. Texas Tech
Silicon Valley Classi
At San Jose, Calif.
Payout: \$750,000 Women's AP Top 25 fared

Week of Dec. 19-25 1. LSU (11-0) beat UC Santa Barbara 72-52 2. Stanford (8-1) lost to No. 9 Tennesse

70-67.
3. Duke (11-1) beat Ball State 81-31.
4. Texas (6-2) beat Texas-Arlington 69-24.
5. Texas (6-2) beat Texas-Arlington 69-24.
6. North Carollia (6-3) did not play.
7. Notre Dame (10-1) did not play.
8. Connecticut (6-2) lost to Arizona State 61-50: beat Colorado State 63-44. Ohio State (11-1) beat No. 20 UCLA

11. Michigan State (10-1) beat Vermont

88-57.

12. Texas Tech (7-2) beat Penn State 79-65.

13. Minnesota (9-2) beat Drake 74-57.

14. Boston College (8-1) defeated Saint Joseph's 65-41.

15. Georgia (9-3) beat Marist 79-62.

16. Vanderbilt (9-1) beat BYU 86-47; beat Pepperdine 78-61.

17. Maryland (8-1) beat Coppin State 83-51.

18. lowa (10-0) beat Western Illinois 76-69. 19. DePaul (8-2) beat St. Peter's 86-61. 20. UCLA (6-3) lost to No. 10 Ohio State

21. Purdue (6-3) did not play. 22. Houston (9-2) lost to Long Beach State 23. Kansas State (6-2) did not play. 24. Rutgers (6-2) did not play. 25. Utah (8-3) lost to Oklahoma 72-54.

Hockey

World Junior Championship

Group A GP W D L GF GA Pt elarus ussia PB 1 1 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 1 1 0 0 1

Slovakia 1 0 0 1
Saturday, Dec. 25
At Grand Forks, N.D.
United States 5, Russia 4
At Thief River Falls, Min
Czech Republic 7, Belarus 2
Finland 4, Germany 1
Sunday, Dec. 26
At Grand Forks, N.D.
Switzerland ys. Belarus

At Grand Forks, Four Switzerland vs. Belarus At Thief River Falls, Minn Sweden vs. Germany Monday, Dec. 27 At Grand Forks, N.D. Canada vs. Sweden Witzerland

Canada vs. Sweden United States vs. Switzerland At Thief River Falls, Minn. Czech Republic vs. Russia Finland vs. Slovakia Russia vs. Belarus Russia vs. Belarus At Grand Forks, N.D. Germany vs. Canada Wednesday, Dec. 28

s. Canada Wednesday, Dec. 29 At Grand Forks, N.D. At Grand Forks, N.D.
Czech Republic vs. Switzerland
Belarus vs. United States
At Thief River Falls, Minn.
Finland vs. Sweden

Slovakia vs. Germany
Thursday, Dec. 30
At Grand Forks, N.D.
Canada vs. Finland

Canada vs. Finland United States vs. Czech Republic At Thief River Falls, Minn.

At Ther River Pails, Minn.
Iland vs. Russia
1 vs. Slovakia
Saturday, Jan. 1
At Grand Forks, N.D.
Relegation
A fourth-place vs. Group

inth-place vs. Group B Quarterfinal 1
Group A runner-up vs. Group B third-place Quarterfinal 2
Group B runner-up vs. Group B third-place Sunday, Jan. 2
At Grand Forks, N.D.
Group B fourth-place vs. Group A fifth-place

Ifth-pilace

Semifinals

Group B winner vs. Quarterfinal 1 winner
Broup A winner vs. Quarterfinal 2 winner
Monday, Jan. 3

At Grand Forks, N.D.
Relegation

Group A fifth place vs. Group B fifth place
Group A fourth place vs. Group A fourth

Jace
Pnu.
Quarterfinal losers
Tuesday, Jan. 4
At Grand Forks, N.D.
Third Place

Semifinal losers
Championship
Semifinal winners

Deals

Saturday's transactions

BASEBALL ague
KANSAS CITY ROYALS – Agreed to terms
with RHP Jose Lima on a one-year contract.
FOOTBALL eague
National Football League
MIAMI DOLPHINS – Named Nick Saban

NEW YORK GIANTS—Placed DT Norman

Shaq-Kobe I goes to Heat in overtime

Bryant scores game-high 42 points; O'Neal fouls out in fourth quarter

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES - The brick wall came tumbling down Satur-

But that didn't stop the Miami Heat from beating the Los Angeles Lakers in Shaq vs. Kobe I.

With Shaquille O'Neal watching from the bench after fouling out late in the fourth quarter. Dwyane Wade and Eddie Jones scored four points each in overtime and the Heat beat the Lakers 104-102 to extend their winning streak to 11 games, equaling a franchise record.

O'Neal had an explanation for his early exit.

"No layups, no dunks," he said. For everybody? "Basically everybody, especially him," O'Neal

O'Neal was referring to Kobe Bryant, a former teammate he has refused to identify by name

for quite some time now. The Heat (22-7) survived despite a season-high 42 points by Bryant. But the Lakers' star was held scoreless in overtime, miss-ing three shots including a three-pointer at the buzzer.

"I had a pretty good look, but I didn't get the balance I would have liked on the shot." Bryant

"I knew that it wasn't going to go in," O'Neal said. "It's called Shaq O'Neal fate."

O'Neal fouled out after getting 24 points and 11 rebounds in his first game against the Lakers since being traded to the Heat

"I felt I let my teammates down a little bit." he said. "My teammates told me they had my back. I wasn't worried at all.'

O'Neal tied the game by dunking off a missed shot with three minutes left, but picked up his sixth foul 45 seconds later when Bryant drove toward the basket. "I kind of forgot I had five," O'Neal said.

Bryant drew O'Neal's fifth foul in similar fashion with 4:04 to nlav

Asked last Monday what would happen if Bryant drove the lane, O'Neal replied: "When you've got a Corvette that runs into a brick wall, you know what's going to happen

"I didn't even realize he had five fouls," Bryant said. "I just attacked and went straight to the basket. He collapsed and I took it right to him.

Bryant said he knew the game would be cleanly played.

"I expected him to just come out here and play," he said. "I knew there was a lot of talk about the brick wall, and all that, But I think that was kind of just to hype

Wade, who had 29 points and 10 assists, scored with 2:06 remaining to give the Heat a 104-99

lead. The Lakers drew within two points when Lamar Odom made his second three-pointer of overtime with 1:11 to play.

But neither team scored after that. The Lakers got the ball one final time with 3.4 seconds to play, but Bryant couldn't come

A pregame tribute to O'Neal was shown on the videoboard before he was introduced to a standing ovation that lasted about 40 seconds. Bryant stood in front of the Lakers' bench and clapped throughout.

O'Neal said he didn't watch the video

"I didn't want to go back into flashback mode," he explained. O'Neal and Bryant acknowledged each other briefly before the opening tipoff.

"I think it was great before the game that the fans paid their respects for all that he's done for the organization," Bryant said.

O'Neal and Bryant were teammates for eight chaotic seasons with the Lakers Desnite their obvious disdain for each other, nearly unbearable at times, the Lakers won three championships and reached the NBA Finals a fourth time during their last five years to-

O'Neal demanded a trade three days after the Lakers were beaten by the Detroit Pistons in the finals last June. Phil Jackson was told the same day his services as coach were no longer desired.

Bryant, meanwhile signed a seven-year, \$136.4 million contract to stay. With Jackson and O'Neal out of the picture, the Lakers immediately became Kobe's

Once the game began, there were few indications Bryant and O'Neal had a past, much less such an acrimonious one.

"I'm over it - it's old news to me," O'Neal said when asked if he still had a problem with Bryant. "I think [the media] keeps it going more than me and him. I just wanted to come in and help my team win

Said Bryant: "Hopefully, this is all behind us now Everybody's gotten the first game out of their system, and now we can just move on and talk about basket-

Jones, another former Laker. had 18 points and seven re-

Udonis Haslem had 11 points

and 11 rebounds for Miami. Odom scored all eight Los An-

geles points in overtime and equaled a season high with 24 Odom, who came to the Lakers in the O'Neal trade, also had 11 re-

Chucky Atkins had 12 points and seven assists, and Chris Mihm had 11 points and 14 re-bounds for the Lakers (14-12).

With the game tied at 94, Wade



ami Heat center Shaquille O'Neal had 24 points in his first game against the Los Angeles Lakers since being traded to the Miami Heat during the offseason. The Heat won 104-102 in overtime.

missed two shots in the last 30 seconds of the fourth quarter, sending the game into overtime and drawing a grimace from O'Neal in front of the Miami bench.

A basket by Bryant and a three-pointer by Atkins put the Lakers on top 71-63, matching the largest lead of the game. The Heat went on a 10-2 run to tie it before Bryant made two spectacular shots to finish the third quarter, putting Los Angeles ahead

Bryant challenged O'Neal on the first two Los Angeles possessions. O'Neal blocked Bryant's shot the first time; Bryant made a pull-up jumper the second.

Bryant made his first three bryant made his first three three-point shots, giving him 11 points and the Lakers a 17-9 lead less than 3½ minutes in. Los Ange-les was 5-for-5 from three-point range at that stage.

No brawls for Pacers. **Pistons** in rematch

By CHRIS SHERIDAN The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS - Rasheed Wallace sauntered off the court and into the exit tunnel, pausing long enough to peel off his head-band and hand it to a youngster wearing the rival's colors.

"Just a kid that asked for a headband, wasn't nothing more than that," Wallace said. It was, however, a lot more

than an empty gesture. On an afternoon when many expected the worst in the first meet-

ing between Indiana and Detroit since their Nov. 19 brawl, peace prevailed — as did the Pistons. Nobody charged into the

stands, nobody tossed a beer, nobody threw a punch or a chair. Instead, the most significant thing anyone hoisted was a three-pointer by Wallace with 90 seconds left that ended the Pacers' final hopes in Detroit's 98-93 victory Satur-

day.
"It was just a regular game, everybody playing the way they play," Pistons center Ben Wallace said. "It wasn't like we were out there intimidated, not wanting to touch anybody because it might start a fight. We were out there to play basketball, and that's the way it should be."

The game went off with barely a harsh word exchanged by the teams, whose previous meeting degenerated into one of the worst melees in the history of U.S. pro-

fessional sports.

Ben Wallace was booed every time he touched the ball, and fans behind the Detroit bench let loose a few words angry-but-clean heckling that the players ignored.

A tarp covered most of the exit tunnel, but it was unnecessary.

The sellout crowd behaved, and the small contingent of fans who yelled at the Pistons as they walked off the court — none of whom appeared older than 12 wanted nothing more than a hand slap or a headband.

I think it was over-hyped. said Reggie Miller, who led Indi-ana with 24 points. "We knew it was going to be a grind-it-out game for 48 minutes. They did all the little things, and that made the difference.

The only positive for Indiana

was the return of Jermaine O'Neal, whose brawl-related suspension was reduced by an arbitrator from 25 games to 15. O'Neal had 21 points, seven rebounds and five blocks, but his poor starts to the first and second halves set the tone on an afternoon when the Pacers too often had to play catch-up.

Richard Hamilton scored 25 points, Chauncey Billups made four three-pointers and scored 20, Tayshaun Prince added 18 and Rasheed Wallace had 16 for the Pistons, who have been having their own problems since the

The victory moved the defend-ing NBA champions just one game over .500 (13-12) in a season that has been defined by the Nov. 19 game against Indiana.

NBA scoreboard

Eastern Conference W L Pct GB

Roston	12	13	480	1/5	
Philadelphia	11	14	440	11/2	
New Jersey	9	16	360	31/2	
Toronto	10	18	.357	4	
Southeast D	divisi	ion			
Miami	22	7	.759	_	
Orlando	15	10	.600	5	
Washington	14	10	.583	51/5	
Charlotte	7	15	.318	111/2	
Atlanta	5	20	.200	15	
Central Div	risio	n			
Cleveland	15	11	.577	_	
Detroit	13	12	520	11/5	
Indiana	12	13	480	21/2	
Chicago	9	15	375	2½ 5	
Milwaukee	6	16	.273	7	
			_,,,		
Wastern Co.	nfo	-	100		

Chicago Milwaukee	6	15 16	.375 .273	7					
Western Conference									
Southwe									
	W	L	Pct	GB					
San Antonio	21	6	.778	-					
Dallas	17	10	.630	4.					
Houston	12	14	.462	81/2					
Memphis	12	17	.414	10					
New Orleans .	. 2	.23	.080	18					
Northwe	est Divis								
Seattle	19	- 5	.792						
Minnesota	15	10	.600	41/2					
Portland	13	12	.520	61/2					
Denver		13		7					
Utah	11	16	.407	91/2					
	Divisio								
Phoenix	23	3	.885						
Sacramento	17		.680	51/2					
L.A. Lakers	14	12		9					
L.A. Clippers	12	12	.500	10					
Golden State	8	18	.308	15					
Frida	Friday's games								
No games scheduled									

Saturday's ga roit 98, Indiana 93 Miami 104, L.A. Lakers 102, OT Sunday's games Charlotte at New York Chicago at Milwaukee Boston at San Antonio New Orleans at Clevel Toronto at Phoenix Washington at Minnes

Charlotte at Washingto New Orleans at Indiana Atlanta at Miami

Saturday Pistons 98, Pacers 93

DETROIT — Prince 6-10 6-6 18, R.Wallace 15 5-8 16, B.Wallace 3-10 0-0 6, Hamilton 16 7-8 25 Billions 6-16 4-5 20 Hunter 0-3 0-0 10 (-8 Zs., Billups 6-16 4-5 20, Hunter 0-3 0-0 McDyess 4-9 5-5 13, Dupree 0-1 0-0 0, Ham 0 0-0 0, Campbell 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 33-81 -32 98. 27-32 98.

INDIAMA — 4-Jones 1-3 0-0 3, O'Neal 7-19
7-10 21, Foster 4-6, 2-2 10, Miller 10-16 2-2 24,

Tinsley 3-10 2-2 8, Crostner 2-5 1-2 5, Foster 4-6,

Harrison 1-2 1-2 3, Totals 3-5 76 17-24 93,

Detroit

Indiana
21, 24 16 32-9

Three-Point Goals—Detroit 5-7 (Billups 4-6,

Three-Point Goals—Detroit 5-7 (Billups 4-6,

Detroit indiana indian ana 23 (Tinsley 13). rotal rotas— Indiana 27. Technical—Billups. foul—F.Jones. A—18,345 (18,345).

Heat 104, Lakers 102 (OT)

MIAMI — Lones 614 22 18, Hasiem 59 1-211, O'Neal 11-19 2-72, D. Dones 4-7 60 11, 1-211, O'Neal 11-19 2-72, D. Dones 4-7 60 11, 1-211, O'Neal 11-19 2-72, D. Dones 4-7 60 11, 1-211, O'Neal 11-19 2-72, D. Dones 6-70, D. Dones 8-90 17-25 104, O'Neal 11-19 2-72, D. Dones 12-20 2, D. Dones 8-90 17-25 104, D. Dones 12-20 2, D. Dones 12-20 2,

LA. LORRETS 33 25 21 17 8-102
Three-Point Goals-Miami 7-14 (EJones
4-5, D.Jones 3-6, Anderson 6.1, Bauther 6.1,
000m 4-6, Atkins 4-9, J.Jones 1-5, Walton 6-1,
000 6-2), Fouled out—O'Neal, Rebound
5-Miami 54 (Haslem, O'Neal 11), LA. Lakers
53 (Mihm 14), Assists—Miami 26 (Wade 10),
LA. Lakers 21 (Atkins 7), Total fouls—Miami

Veterans rise to the top in 2004

Wealth of experience among players chosen for All-Europe volleyball

BY RUSTY BRYAN Stars and Stripes

his year's All-Europe high school volleyball team is loaded with veteran players whose experience and talent helped make both their teammates and oppo-

One of those veterans is Ansbach senior Brittney Britton. Brit-ton, who registered 22 aces, 41 kills and 15 blocks during the season, was a driving force in Ansbach's surge to the European Divi-

sion III championship in October. "She's my girl!" said Kathy Clemmons, coach for Division III rival Hohenfels. "I've watched her for three years. She doesn't have any weaknesses. She plays strong defense, hits from all over the court and has amazing anticipation. She knows exactly where the ball is going every time.

Another is middle blocker Ash

ley Mead, a senior at Aviano.
"I'm sad to see Ashley go Sigonella coach Shawn McCarthy said of Mead, a second-team All-Europe pick as a junior who averaged 3.1 kills per set in the European tournament

"She cost us the Italy championship, but in the end it's about great volleyball. She helped our team get to a higher level by posing such a challenge to us

The same could be said of outside hitter Liz Lally, a senior at Sigonella who transferred to Europe last year. That was enough time for her to impress the opposi-

"We saw her here and in Sigonella," Naples coach Eric Vining said of Lally, who chalked up 30 kills, 10 aces and three blocks in a European semifinal against Anshach

"She's a tremendous talent. Mead's teammate at Aviano, se-

nior setter AuBree Mariz, made the first team for the second straight year, one of only three players to repeat. The others were a pair of outside hitters Frankfurt International School sophomore Lindsay Albert and Heidelberg junior Natasha Holan

Said Patch coach Todd Taylor of Mariz, who chalked up 70 assists in the Division II tournament, "She's the best setter I've seen. She's a great all-around volleyball player who plays with a lot of intelligence. She made good choices every time she touched the hall

Of the first-team repeaters, Heidelberg's Rich Bennett was particularly taken with Albert. "She's a really tremendous spiker," Bennett said. "She does ev-

erything for her team." According to FIS coach Tom Callahan, Albert averaged 18 kills

Holan, who averaged 6.1 kills per game in the tournament for Bennett's Division I champions,

drew raves from McCarthy.
"She has amazing form," McCarthy said. "Once the ball gets to





Ansbach middle blocker Brittney Britton, who registered 22 aces, 41 kills and 15 blocks during the season, led her team to the European Division III championship. Britton is one of nine seniors chosen for the 2004 All-Europe volleyball first team.

the setter, she clears out and gets into position to make the kill. Even though some of her attempts were returned, all of them were in bounds."

In addition to Aviano's Mead, two other 2003 second-teamers, senior middle blockers Caitlin Laingen of Alconbury's Division IV champions and Ehrin Hopkins of Patch were promoted to 2004's first team. Three seniors made the all-Europe team for the first time: Lakenheath middle blocker

Ashley Lariviere, Heidelberg setter Jessica Palaschakm and Ramoutside hitter Heather

Rounding out the selections was Hopkins' teammate Kasy'e Lalau who made the team for the first time.

"I remember her being all over the place," Naples' Vining said of Lalau, a sophomore outside hit-"She was just as strong in the back as she was in the front.

E-mail Rusty Bryan at: bryanr@mail.estripes.osd.mil

2004 All-Europe volleyball

Setter Middle blocker

Selection panel

3.9 assists per set in Division II tournament 172 assists; 65-for-67 serves in D-1 tourney.

15 blocks in 66 tries; 41 kills in 186 hits. 137 kills, 49 blocks in 57 games. 161 kills, 19 blocks, 106 digs, 154 svc. pts. 6 blocks (4 stuffs), 8 kills, 7 digs per game 56 kills, 15 aces in 18 sets at D-2 tourney.

The first team:







Rich Bennett, Heidelberg; Shanon Bryant, Ramstein; Pam Hillestad, Aviano; Susan Payne, London Central; Kori Pollock, Vilseck





















Lima rejoins Royals with 1-year pact

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Jose Lima rejoined the Kansas City Royals when he agreed to a one-year contract Saturday, hop-ing to provide stability and leadership to a rotation that was awful

Lima, who pitched for the Royals in 2003, spent last season with Los Angeles, going 13-5 with a 4.07 ERA. He walked 34 and struck out 93 in 170 innings, then threw a shutout in the NL playoffs against St. Louis.

In 12 major league seasons, the right-hander is 84-82 with a 5.00 ERA. His best stretch came in 1998 and 1999, when he went 16-8 nd 21-10, respectively, for the Houston Astros.

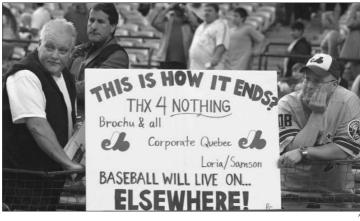
"He's a proven guy that can give you innings and wants the ball in big situations, so we're glad to have him," Royals general manager Allard Baird said

Terms of the deal were not im-

mediately available.
Two years ago, Kansas City plucked Lima from the roster of the Newark Bears of the independent Atlantic League at mid son. His 8-3 record with a 4.91 ERA in 14 starts helped the Royals to their first winning record in

a non-strike year since 1993. Last season, the Royals lost a team-record 104 games as injuries kept their pitching staff unset-tled throughout. The staff had only three shutouts and had the AL's worst ERA (5.15). Late in the season, things got so bad that left-hander Darrell May blamed his league-high 19 losses and 5.61 ERA on poor run support and ineffective relievers.

"From a pitching standpoint, we're going young," Baird said. 'We really needed an innings guy to add to our rotation - not only to add stability, but to protect our



Gone, and soon to be forgotten

For The Associated Press

MONTREAL - The artificial turf is gone, leaving a concrete floor at barren Olympic Stadium and an even harder truth in Montreal: The Expos are long gone.

Since the end of the season, Claude Delorme, the Expos' exec utive vice president for business affairs, has overseen the winding up of the team's operations.

"There's no doubt that we pro-

longed our life," Delorme said. were able to extend our-

After 36 years, the Montreal Expos are reduced to bleak empty spaces

selves a few extra years that people didn't think we would."

Delorme's unenviable new role began in earnest on Sept. 29 when team president Tony Tavares confirmed the franchise's long-antici-pated move to Washington, D.C., for 2005. The Expos played their final game at Olympic Stadium that evening, an anticlimactic 9-1 loss to Florida

Now, the protective screen be hind home plate is rolled up, though it remains suspended from the desolate stadium's roof for the moment. The padded blue outfield walls - 325 feet in the corners, and 404 feet to dead center — have been placed in stor-age in the bowels of the building.

Nets that served as foul poles have been removed, though the bright orange lines on the roof survive as reminders of a Dave Kingman moonshot that necessitated a new ground rule and a perilous paint job.

A familiar and long-serving reminder of the longest homer in stadium history has been removed, though.

There is now an empty space where Seat 13 used to be in Section 351, Row C among the rows of grungy burnt orange seats in the stadium's distant middle deck. The yellow seat that marked Willie Stargell's mammoth 535-foot homer off Wayne Twitchell on May 20, 1978, has gone to the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame in St. Catharine's, Ontario.

Back in the team's offices, a nondescript black binder sits on a shelf behind Delorme. He began putting it together three years ago and said it proved an invaluable resource in winding up the team's operations in Montreal.

"It's basically a to-do list," Delorme said. "There were pages for every department and every individual. From disposal of the office furniture to ensuring that the alarm and telephone systems were canceled, it addressed the nuts and bolts of our operations.

The worst part of the job for Delorme was whittling down the staff. No one was surprised by the move, though the shock was significant after years of rumors.

"The human factor was definitely by far the biggest issue I had to deal with," Delorme said. "I really thought that we were all prepared mentally for this, but when it happened it was a lot more severe than we probably all anticipated. It was a family setting here and it was very emotional.

The Expos' remaining skeleton staff is down to 10 people. This Wednesday, the club set up card tables for a farewell lunch as several more long-serving employees worked their final day.

"I don't think I've had the opportunity to really reflect and say, 'Wow, this is finished. It's time to turn the page,'" Delorme said. turn the page,' 'It's probably going to happen in the next two weeks, during the Christmas holidays."

Media relations and services director Monique Giroux finished up work in her empty office Wednesday after sending out the Expos' last official press release, which indicated how the team's artifacts were being distributed among various caretaker institujoined the expansion franchise in November 1968, Giroux was in good spirits despite the bleak environment.

"It's just like any other thing, it's the end of an era — thank you, goodbye," Giroux said, breaking into resigned laughter, "I don't have any hard feelings. It's been a great ride. The only thing I regret that we didn't have the down town stadium. That would have been a big asset for the city.

Condominiums are under construction on the site just south of the Bell Centre, where the failed stadium project would have been

The only championship in the Expos' 36-year history was the 1981 NL East title, when Montreal won a playoff against Philadelphia after finishing first in the division during the second half of the strike-shortened season.

The team's mascot, a fuzzy orange Muppet-inspired character named Youpii!, will remain in Onehec with his trademark exclamation point on his back Enormously popular with children, nonetheless will be Youpii stripped of the team's logos, which will remain property of the franchise once his rights are transferred.

For the time being, Youpii! and Dodgers closer Eric Gagne, a Montreal native who grew up within blocks of the stadium, likely will remain the biggest links between baseball and the city that allowed Jackie Robinson to break the game's color barrier with the minor league Royals in 1946.

While she doesn't see hasehall returning to Montreal any time soon, Giroux wouldn't rule out the possibility much farther down

"It's a big market," Giroux said. "You never know.



You know how to play the game. but do you know how to win?

Play the NFL Challenge at www.stripes.com or www.oconus.com for your chance to win cash!

As a BONUS PRIZE, the top winner eek will receive \$100 toward

TEAMSTORES



Sunday, January 2 Log in every week during the 2004 NFL son and make your picks for the inners of upcoming NFL games. Earn points for every winning team you pick and at the end of the season, you ma find yourself the winner. * Enter the

"secret code" above and DOURLE your point total for the week! *Certain rules and restrictions apply. See the official rules of play at www.oconus.com/nfl an on stripes.com. There is no cost to participate, but you must register to play.



Heisman winner Leinart also AP's player of year

BY RALPH D. RUSSO The Associated Press

NEW YORK - Matt Leinart found a comfort zone this season. No longer worried about losing his job, the easygoing Southern California quarterback became the unquestioned leader of the

Trojans. He performed the job so well in his second year as a starter that he also became The Associated Press player of the year. "A year of experience opens up

the Heisman Trophy so much." winner said. "Vou've been around Vou're a

veteran. You've been playing for a year. You can get so much better in a year or so

Leinart has completed 66 percent of his passes for 2.990 vards and 28 touchdowns, guiding the top-ranked Trojans to an Orange Bowl matchup with No. 2 Oklaho ma and last year's AP player of the year, Jason White.

The BCS national title game will be college football's first matchup of players with Heisman trophies. White took home last year's Heisman.

The AP player of the year voting was closer than this season's Heisman balloting, but the final order was similar. Leinart received 17 votes from a nationwide panel of 64 media members.

White and his freshman teammate, Adrian Peterson, tied for second with 12 votes each.

USC tailback Reggie Bush was fourth with 11 votes and Utah quarterback Alex Smith had nine votes. Texas tailback Cedric Ben son received two votes and Louis-

AP Player of the Year voting

ville quarterback Stefan LeFors

In the Heisman balloting, Leinart easily beat out Peterson, who took second by a slim margin over White. Smith was fourth and Bush fifth

Leinart is the fifth straight quar terback to win the AP award, following White, Iowa's Brad Banks, Florida's Rex Grossman and Oklahoma's Josh Heupel.

The award was established in 1998 and Texas tailback Ricky Williams was the first to win it. Leinart became the Trojans' starting quarterback last season, taking over for departed 2002 He-

isman Trophy winner Carson He won a four-way battle in the preseason for the job and it took him awhile to stop looking over his shoulder to see if he was about

to be taken out of the game. "This year has been more fun because I haven't felt as much pressure," the junior said.

Playing with two NFL-caliber wideouts and behind one of the best lines in the country, Leinart passed for 3,556 yards and 38 touchdowns and led USC to a share of the national title in 2003.

This year, with receivers Mike Williams and Keary Colbert gone and the line retooled, Leinart was

key in pulling together the new pieces and helping the Trojans go 12-0.

"I knew going in that I was going to have take on a different perspective," Leinart said.

And he did so without any prompting from coach Pete Carroll or offensive coordinator Norm Chow.

"I took it upon myself just to be the leader," he said. "I really didn't have to change anything, just to carry the guys along until they got comfortable

"I'm not a real vocal guy, but I can be," he said.

The left-hander's laid-back leadership has set the tone for the Trojans. His poise and patience were invaluable in come-from-behind road victories over Virginia Tech, Stanford and Oregon State He threw for 761 yards with six touchdowns and one interception in those games.

Leinart's consistency has been remarkable. The Trojans are 24-1 with him as a starter and have won 21 straight, heading into the BCS national title game

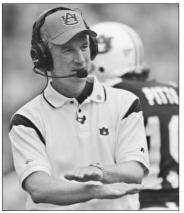
Leinart has thrown at least two touchdown passes 10 times this season and 22 times in his career. USC's last game, a 29-24 victory over UCLA was the first of his career without a touchdown pass.

Leinart has said he intends to return to USC for his senior year, but it's looking like he's a lock to be a high first-round NFL draft pick. He could even match Palmer again and go first overall

'I'm aware of the opportunity," Leinart said. "We'll see what hap-



Southern California quarterback Matt Leinart has completed 66 percent of his passes for 2.990 vards and 28 touchdowns, guiding the top-ranked Trojans to an Orange Bowl matchup with No. 2 Oklahoma.



A year after almost losing his job, Auburn coach Tommy Tuberville guided the Tigers (12-0) to a Sugar Bowl matchup with Virginia Tech.

AP voters select Auburn's Tuberville as college football coach of the year

BY RALPH D. RUSSO The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Tommy Tuberville followed the most difficult season of his coaching career with the best.

A year after he was nearly replaced by Auburn, Tuberville is The Associated Press coach of "I learned a lot last vear from

what we went through at the end of the season," he said. "I've been more relaxed this season.' In his sixth season at Auburn,

Tuberville has led third-ranked Tigers to a 12-0 regular season and its first Southeastern Conference championship in 15 years. "It's probably been my easiest

eason as a head coach because of the great senior leadership this team has," Tuberville said. "Coaches tend to think the

world is on their shoulders. I've delegated more authority this sea son than before. Because of that I think it's been an easier year.

But not quite perfect, despite the perfect record

The Tigers failed to reach the Orange Bowl to play for the Bowl Championship Series national title. Auburn never could get past Oklahoma and Southern California in the BCS standings and will play Virginia Tech in the Sugar Bowl on Jan. 3.

Tuberville did far better in the coach of the year voting than his team did in the polls. He was a runaway winner, getting 35 of the 63 votes from the panel of media members.

Utah coach Urban Mever was second with 14 votes. Mever led the Utes to an unbeaten season and a berth in the BCS before taking the Florida job.

USC's Pete Carroll and Iowa's Kirk Ferentz received four votes. California's Jeff Tedford got three votes and Texas-El Paso's Mike Price got two. Oklahoma's Bob Stoops and Louisville's Bobby Petrino each received one

Tuberville is the second straight SEC coach to win the AP award. LSU's Nick Saban was last

vote.

AP Coach of the Year voting

Coach, Team
Tommy Tuberville, Aubu
Urban Meyer, Utah
Pete Carroll, USC
Kirk Ferentz, Iowa
Jeff Tedford, California
Mike Price, UTEP
Bobby Petrino, Louisville
Bob Stoops, Oklahoma

As disappointing as being left out of the title game has been for Tuberville and his undefeated Tigers, this season has been far more enjoyable than last

The Tigers began the 2003 campaign ranked in the top 10 and favored to win the SEC. But they lost their first two games of the season and stumbled to a disappointing 8-5 finish. There was speculation late in the season Tuerville might be on the way out.

It almost happened. It became nublic that Auburn officials including the university president, had covertly courted Louisville coach Bobby Petrino to replace Tuberville

"A little bizarre is an understatement," Tuberville said.

Tulsa men's hoop coach Phillips resigns

The Associated Press

TULSA, Okla. — John Phillips resigned Saturday as Tulsa's bas-

ketball coach after opening 2-5.
Phillips led Tulsa to the NCAA
tournament in his first two seasons, but the Golden Hurricane
slipped to 9-20 last year and have
lost four of their past five games

this season.

"The last couple of months have been very difficult for me, my family and the players," Phillips said in a statement.

"Sometimes, change can bring about growth. My hope is that all TU fans will support the players through the remainder of the season and we will all witness tremendous progress."

Assistant coach Alvin Williamson will take over on an interim basis. The school offered Phillips a chance to stay on as assistant athletic director.

"Obviously, this is not the way that I envisioned becoming head coach," said Williamson, who also played at Tulsa. "Coach Phillips has been very influential in my coaching career. As coaches, we're going to put our entire energy into this basketball team and our next opponent."

Phillips was hired in April 2001, inheriting a strong program built up by former coaches Tubby Smith, Bill Self and Buzz Peterson. Tulsa went to the NCAA tournament six times in eight years before Phillips took

The Golden Hurricane opened this season with a loss to Wright State, then were blown out by crosstown rival Oral Roberts. The final straw was a 91–85 home loss Wednesday to Lamar — a team that hadn't won a road game in more than a year. Phillips was 61-42 in three-plus

seasons at Tulsa. Williamson, 31, is in his fourth

season on the Tulsa coaching staff after previous stints as an assistant at Tulane, Illinois State and Washington State.

Tulsa men's LSU's Saban agrees to coach Dolphins

Five-year contract worth nearly \$25 million has not yet been signed

BY MARK LONG

ORLANDO, Fla. — LSU coach Nick Saban finally turned pro Saturday, prompting a Christmas night celebration at the home of Miami Dolphins owner Wayne Huizenga

"My wife and I high-fived each other," Huizenga said.

The billionaire businessman anxiously watched from Fort Lauderdale as Saban held a televised news conference in Orlando to announce he would accept an offer to coach the Dolphins.

Saban, courted repeatedly by the NFL in recent years, mulled over the offer for three days before disclosing his decision shortly after the Tigers arrived in Orlando for their Jan. 1 bowl game against Iowa.

"It's a tremendous challenge for me," he said, "and a great opportunity for me and my family."

No contract has been signed, but Saban agreed to a five-year deal worth almost \$5 million per

He first interviewed for the job last week at his home in Baton Rouge, La., hosting Huizenga and president Eddie Jones for dinner. He met with them again Friday

and said he agreed in principle to a deal. But Huizenga said he was un-

sure they had an agreement until the news conference.

"If somebody held a gun to my

head 10 minutes ago, I couldn't tell you," Huizenga said moments after Saban's announcement. "I had a good feeling, but I really did not know."

Saban, 53, will coach LSU in the bowl game before taking over a long-proud franchise enduring its worst season since the 1960s. He becomes the sixth coach in team history, and the fourth since Huizenga took over as owner in 1994

Touted as NFL material even when he was at Michigan State in the late 1990s, Saban has turned down previous overtures from at



Nick Saban, who announced on Saturday that he will take over a Dolphins team coming off its worst season since the 1960s, will coach LSU against lowa in the Capital One Bowl on Jan. 1 in Orlando, Fla.

least five pro teams, including Atlanta and Chicago a year ago. He has been considered the favorite to become the Dolphins' coach since Dave Wannstedt resigned last month when they were 1-8.

Upon arriving in Orlando, Saban met with his players to inform them he was leaving. Accompanied by four uniformed Louisana police officers, he then walked through a nearly deserted hotel lobby to a huge ballroom, where he spoke to about a dozen reporters and cameramen.

He said the Dolphins' job carried special appeal even though they're one of the NFL's worst teams at 3-11.

"I have a lot of respect and gratitude for everybody who has been

interested in me through the years," Saban said. "I just felt like this opportunity, with this organization, was one of the best that's ever been presented to me in terms of how you can control your destiny in the organization, the commitment the organization has to winning and the tradition

Huizenga's willingness to give Saban full authority over the football operation could mean the demotion or departure of general manager Rick Spielman

that they have in winning.

Saban is 9-2 this season and 48-15 in five years at LSU, taking his team to a bowl game every season.

"It's the most self-gratifying experience I've had as a coach," Saban said. "But I've always been driven by challenges — the next challenge that makes driven people want to take advantage of the next opportunity."

The highest-paid coach in college football, Saban is in the first year of an \$18.45 million, seven-year contract at LSU, but the deal has no buyout clause penalizing him for taking another

LSU went 3-8 the year before he arrived and 8-4 in his first season. A Southeastern Conference title followed in 2001, and he led the Tigers to last season's BCS national championship.

"You look around and say, 'OK, who's out there that's better than that?" "Huizenga said. "I couldn't find anybody."

The other candidates interviewed by Huizenga were former Oakland Raiders coach Art Shell and Dolphins interim coach Jim Bates. Many Miami players lobbied for Huizenga to keep Bates, who is 2-3 since being promoted from defensive coordinator. His team plays Cleveland on Sunday night.

Bates may return to his former job next season.

"I think if we talk about it, we'll know if it works for both of us," Saban said. He and Bates were assistants together with the Browns

in 1991-1993.

Also on that staff was Saban's close friend Bill Belichick, coach of the Super Bowl champion New England Patriots. They now be-

come AFC East rivals.

Saban's other NFL experience was as an assistant coach with the Houston Oilers in 1988-89.

LSU defensive end Melvin Oliver said players recognized Saban had an opportunity he couldn't nass up.

"We're taking it in stride," Oliver said. "He's got to do what's best for him and his family. We understand fully."

Oliver also said Saban's decision won't affect the team's preparations for the bowl game.

"The coach is dedicated, and this won't be a distraction," Oliv-

TIRE RACK www.tirerack.com

TIRES WHEELS SPRINGS SHOCKS BRAKES Want to improve the look, enhance the performance of

or keep your vehicle driving like the day it was new? The Tire Rack is your "one-stop" shop for what you need.



Choose from 15 major tire brands. Review our test results.
Choose from 19 major wheel brands. See them on your vehicle.
Springs and shocks for sure-footed handling and aggressive appearance.

Premium brake pads and rotors for affordable performance upgrades



WESTERN

574-287-2 FAX: 574-236-7

Vanderbilt RB shot to death in Tampa The Associated Press "I don't be- Fritische scored twice — includ-

i ne Associatea Pre

TAMPA, Fla. — Vanderbilt running back Kwane Doster was shot to death early Sunday when someone fired at the parked car he was in, police said.

Doster, 21, of Tampa, died at Tampa General Hospital after being shot near the Ybor City nightlife district, police spokesman Joe Durkin said. Detectives were trying to find the killer and determine a motive

Doster and two friends had stopped their car while "cruising around" when another car pulled up beside them, Durkin said.

Several shots were fired at Doster's car, and one hit him in the chest while he was sitting behind the driver. No one else was hurt. Sports briefs "I don't believe any words were exchanged," Durkin said, adding that investiga-

tors didn't know if Doster was the intended target.

Police believe three people were in the other car.

A message left for a Vanderbilt spokesman on Sunday was not immediately returned.

The junior running back ran for 437 yards and one touchdown this season for the Commodores (2-9). For his career, Doster had 1,621 yards rushing, 256 yards receiving and seven touchdowns.

Defending junior hockey champ U.S. opens with win

GRAND FORKS, N.D. — Dan

ing a tiebreaking short-handed goal — to lead the defending champion United States team to a 5-4 victory over Russia on Saturday night in the opening round of the World Junior Hockey Championship.

Fritsche's second goal, scored midway through the second period, was the winner. The Americans took leads of 2-0, 3-2 and 4-3 against Russia, the tournament champion in 2002 and 2003.

Robbie Schremp, Chris Bourque and Drew Stafford had the other goals for the United States, which got 30 saves from Al Montoya of Michigan, a first-round draft pick of the New York Rangers.

Montoya made 12 saves in the third period.

Broncos still in playoff race

BY TERESA M. WALKER The Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. Plummer broke out of his slump with a nearly perfect start and kept the Denver Broncos in the

nlavoff race Plummer threw for 303 yards and two touchdowns, and Reuben Droughns scored three TDs as the Broncos beat the Tennessee Titans 37-16 Saturday night to stay in at least a tie for the AFC's final wild-card slot going into the

final week of the season. Denver (9-6) had lost three of its last four games with two of those losses to teams with losing records, including last week's 45-17 rout at Kansas City. Plummer hurt Denver more than he helped with nine interceptions and only two touchdowns during that stretch.

Against a defense missing six starters. Plummer had one pass intercepted, giving him an NFL-high 20 this season, but otherwise was sunerh.

The Broncos gave coach Mike Shanahan his 100th regular-season victory with the franchise by handing his friend, Titans coach Jeff Fisher, his worst home loss in six seasons at The Coliseum. Seeing such a performance from his heavily criticized quarterback didn't hurt either.

"For him to come back and fight the way he did under the circumstances, I was pleased," Shanahan said.

The past month hadn't been easy for Plummer, who struggled on the field and off, even paying a fine last week for an obscene gesture. He couldn't have started this game much better.

He completed his first eight passes, had a perfect passer rating of 158.3 in the first quarter



Denver Broncos running back Reuben Droughns (34) scored three touchdowns and rushed for 91 yards against the Titans on Saturday.

and was 10-for-11 for 144 yards early in the second. He helped Denver score on its first three nos sessions for a 17-3 lead. He had a 23-yard TD pass to Droughns on the first drive for a lead the Broncos didn't relinquish

Plummer was not sacked and finished 21-for-26.

"It is always good for a quarterback to have confidence, especial-ly after all of the criticism." Denver receiver Ashlev Lelie said. "For him to step up and play like he did just shows what type of character he has. We all thank Jake for playing as well as he

Denver handed the Titans (4-11) their fifth straight loss by shutting down Billy Volek, who was trying to become the first quarterback in NFL history to throw for 400 yards in three consecutive games.

Reggie Hayward had three of the Broncos' six sacks, and the defense also forced two turnovers and limited Tennessee to a season-low 153 vards of offense. The Titans dropped to 1-6 at home this season before a stadium that was nearly empty in the final minutes on the cold Christmas night

'We wanted to bounce back," Hayward said. "We got embarrassed last week. We wanted to come back with a strong showing against Tennessee.'

The Broncos even knocked Volek out of the game in the fourth quarter with a bruised left knee, forcing the Titans to use Doug Johnson for the first time this season, with Steve McNair wearing street clothes on the side line because of his bruised chest. Volek was 8-of-20 for 111 yards

X-rays of his knee were negative.

NFL scoreboard

9 0 .357 256 367 9 0 .357 253 300 9 0 .357 209 234 x-Atlanta 9 6 0 .600 393 366 8 7 0 .533 387 374 5 9 0 .357 204 281 5 9 0 .357 258 313

St. Louis
Arizona 5 9 0
San Francisco 2 12 0
x-clinched division
y-clinched conference
Friday's game
Green Bay 34, Minnesota 31
Saturday's game Saturday's gar Kansas City 31, Oakland 30 Denver 37, Tennessee 16

Houston at Jacksonville Atlanta at New Orleans N.Y. Glants at Cincinnati Buffalo at San Francisco New England at N.Y. Jet: Arizona at Seattle Washington at Dallas Carolina at Tampa Bay Cleveland at Miami Monday's game Saturday

Broncos 37, Titans 16

First Qu Den-Droughns 23 pi Elam kick), 12:03. Den-FG Elam 22, 8:42. Ten-FG Anderson 44, uen—FG Elam 22, 8:42.
Ten—FG Anderson 44, 6:45.
Den—Droughns 8 run (Elam kick), 4:26.
Ten—A.Smith 13 run (Anderson kick), 1:45.
Second Quarter
Den—R.Smith 7 pass from Plummer (Elam

Ten—FG Anderson 43.:43. Ten—FG Hentrich 50.:00.

Den-FG Elam 22, 3-50.

Third Quarter
Den-FG Elam 30, 11:19.
Den-Droughns 23 run (Elam kick), 6:55.
A-68,809.

Total Net Yards Rushes-vards 40-193 14-59 303 94 2-6 0-0 4-96 8-154 2-25 1-25 21-26-1 12-27-2 0-0 6-43 2-43.5 6-39.8 Passing Punt Returns Kickoff Return

Chiefs 31, Raiders 30

7 14 3 6–30
7 14 0 10–31
Oak-Porter 5 pass from Collins (Janikows-ki kick), 13:25.
KC-LJohnson 6 rom Collins

i kick), 13:25. KC-LJohnson 6 run (Tynes kick), 2:14. Second Quarter Oak-Crockett 3 run (Janikowski kick), 11:40. KC-Gonzalez 2 pass from Green (Tynes kick), 6:44. KC-Gonzalez 26 pass from Green (Tynes kick), 1:54. Oak-Whitted 32 pass from Green (Tynes Kick), 1:54.

Cak—Whitted 32 pass from Collins (Jani-kowski kick), :24.

Third Quarter
Oak—FG Janikowski 40, :09.

22-100 29-9: 200 334 1-7 2-5 6-146 6-175 1-24 1-0 18-37-1 32-45-1 2-17 4-24 5-43.4 2-55.5 0-0 1-1 Passing Punt Returns Kickoff Return iterceptions Ret. omp-Att-Int acked-Yards Lost

Permitting Procession 15:14 34:45 Permitting Procession 15:14 34:45 Permitting Procession 15:14 September 16:14 Permitting Procession 16:14 Pe Missed field goals—Kansas City, Tynes 43 (BK), Tynes 50 (SH).

Late FG lifts Chiefs past Raiders

By DOUG THEKER The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. - As the Kansas City Chiefs moved into position for the game-winning field goal, Lawrence Tynes was wishing he'd washed his car.

That's always been the game-day good luck charm for Kansas City's rookie kicker. But he went ahead and drilled a 38-yarder with 22 seconds left, lifting the Chiefs to a 31-30 victory Saturday over the Oakland Raiders.

"It was too cold this morning (to wash the car), Tynes said after booting his first game-winning field goal in the NFL. "I was thinking I should have washed it.'

No matter how filthy Tynes' transportation might be, he probably would never have gotten on the field if not for Dante Hall's 49-yard kickoff return after Sebastian Janikowski's third field goal, a 46-yarder. put the Raiders on top 30-28 with 1:03 to play.

Hall waited as the expected squib kick bounced perfectly into his arms and then set sail behind some excellent blocks. "Most teams in situations like that tend to squib

kick them," Hall said. "It was just a matter of catching it, finding the right bounce. It was the fourth victory in a row for the Chiefs

(7-8), whose Super Bowl hopes were dashed by opening 1-3 and enduring a four-game losing streak in November.

Janikowski scored the last nine points for Oakland (5-10) on three field goals, including a 45-yard-er that made it 28-27 with 3:49 left.

"This is very frustrating." Oakland running back

Amos Zereoue said. "You can't ask for much more than we gave out there Hall was not stopped until Janikowski got him on

the Raiders 36 Then Trent Green, whose fumble had led to Jani-

kowski's go-ahead field goal, completed passes to Chris Horn and Tony Gonzalez and Tynes trotted onto the field. "Anybody who says they're not nervous in a situa-

tion like that is lying," said Tynes. "My mom's been sick and she was here for the first time. It's pretty special. It's pretty cool.'

Holding for Tynes, who missed from 50 yards and had another attempt blocked, was punter Nick Murphy, who was signed at midweek.

We knew it was going to come down to stopping them on defense one more time," Oakland defensive tackle Warren Sapp said. "We just couldn't get the little fella down. He made an excellent return For much of the game, two of the worst defenses

in the NFL seemed bent on proving statistics don't always lie. But it looked like the last crucial mistake be-

longed to the Kansas City offense when Ted Washington recovered Green's fumble on the Oakland 43 with 1:42 to play and Janikowski converted a field goal. He also had a 40-yarder that put the Raiders on top 24-21 in the final seconds of the third quarter. Green hit 32 of 45 passes for 358 vards and two

uchdowns to tight Tony Gonzalez. Oakland's Kerry Collins was 18-for-37 for 217 yards and a pair of touchdowns

"Thanks to the special teams for saving me today," said Green.

White: DE helped guide Packers to Super Bowl

WHITE, FROM BACK PAGE

He helped lead the Packers to consecutive Super Bowl appearances, including a victory over New England in 1997, when he set a Super Bowl record with three sacks.

White worked tirelessly with inner-city kids and to bridge the racial and economic divide But his image was tarnished when he gave a speech in which he denounced homosexuality and used ethnic stereotypes. White later anologized for any harm his comments may have caused.

White was 39 when he finished his NFL career with Carolina, leaving the game with 198 sacks That was actually White's third retirement. He retired for one day before the 1998 season, but then said God had told him he needed to play again, and he returned to the Packers.

White retired again after the 1998 season and took a year off from football. After the Packers allowed him out of his contract.

White returned to the Panthers last season and played for \$1 mil-

"I will always miss the locker room and the guys, but I know God's will for me to move on to other challenges because it's not in me like it used to be," White said at the time.

White's last season was disap pointing in many respects. He had a career-low 51/2 sacks with only 27 tackles. He didn't show the same pass-rushing skills that had made him such a dominating

White spent eight years with the Eagles and six with the Pack-ers before a final one with the Panthers Remarkably durable, White

missed only one game in his last 12 seasons and started all but three games during that span.

"Reggie's records and accom-plishments say it all," said George Seifert, who coached him on the Panthers. "He is a Hall of Fame player and possibly the best defensive lineman ever to play the game.

Packers dedicate division-clincher to teammate

WR Ferguson still experiencing numbness in side after clothesline hit

BY ARNIE STAPLETON

This one was for Fergie. The Green Bay Packers dedicated their division-clinching victory over Minnesota on Christmas Eve to wide receiver Robert Ferguson, who is still experiencing numbness on his left side a week after a clothesline hit by Donovin Darius that drew a \$75,000 fine from the NFL

As the Packers celebrated their third straight NFC North crown. they carried coaches' greaseboards inscribed with "Ferg 89" and "4 U Fergie."

"This one's for you!" wide receiver Donald Driver yelled into his cell phone after the Packers' 34-31 victory

Ferguson didn't make the trip

after taking a vicious hit that left him temporarily paralyzed below the waist and in the hospital for two days. His return this season is uncertain

Ferguson gave his teammates a pep talk at Lambeau Field on Thursday before they flew to Minneapolis. Even though he staved back, the Packers set up his locker at the Metrodome with his No. 89 iersev as though he were going

And coach Mike Sherman awarded Ferguson a game ball after the Packers triumphed on Longwell's fourth game-winning field goal in the last seven weeks.

"This game is for Fergie because Fergie is the heart and soul of this football team in many ways," Sherman said, referring to

the fourth-year receiver who is vards and a game-tying touchnoted for playing through pain. "He typifies what you want as a

Green Bay Packer because he lays it out every day in practice and every game."

With Ferguson sidelined, the Packers promoted Andrae Thurman from their practice squad and he caught two passes Friday, including Brett Favre's first one.

Javon Walker caught five passes for 90 yards, including a blitz-beater from the Vikings' 38 with 25 seconds left that covered 31 vards to set up Longwell's win-

Favre, who won for the third time in his last five trips to the Metrodome, released the ball just as he was getting pummeled by

Driver had 11 catches for 162

down on fourth-and-goal with 3:34 left. His biggest reception, was a 20-yarder on however,

third-and-10 from the Vikings 20 at the start of the winning drive. 'They didn't just do it today, Sherman said. "They've done it all year long. A few years ago people were concerned that we didn't have quality receivers, but I think

there's an exclamation point after our receivers this year for what they've done Walker, a Pro Bowl pick, has 86 catches for 1,300 yards and 11 TDs, and Driver has 83 receptions for 1,160 yards and a career-high nine scores. But the re-

ceiver on everybody's mind was home, enjoying the game on TV "It was won for Fergie, there's no doubt about it." Favre said. "He's a huge part of this team, even if he didn't make it today."



Walker carries a sign with the name of injured Robert Ferguson after the Packers' 34-31 victory over the Minnesota Vikings on Friday in Minneapolis.

Eagles RB Westbrook wants to make up for lost time in playoffs

The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA - Brian Westbrook knows how teammate Terrell Owens feels.

Owens will miss the rest of the regular season and the NFC playoffs while recovering from ankle surgery. He could return if Philadelphia makes it to the Super

Westbrook missed last year's playoffs with a torn triceps. He was the Eagles' biggest offensive playmaker last season, and his absence was painfully felt in an NFC title game loss in which Philadelphia scored only three points against Carolina

"Any time anybody gets hurt for any length of time, you're definitely disappointed, you're defi-nitely sad for them," Westbrook "I've been in that similar situation, so I understand exactly what he's going through.

This year, the versatile Westbrook is healthy and ready to make up for lost time - and for the loss of Owens. Westbrook has emerged as one of the top running backs in the NFL in his first season as Philadelphia's primary back, becoming a threat to score however he touches the ball

He is Philly's leading rusher with 812 yards and three touch downs, and is second in receptions with 73 for 703 yards and six touchdowns. Westbrook missed one game this season with a cracked rib, but the 5-foot-10, 205-pound back has been durable and erased concerns he'd be unable to handle the rigors of playing as a featured back

The memories of sitting out last year's playoffs are fresh for Westbrook and coach Andy Reid, who is mulling how much he's going to play his starters in the last two regular-season games. Though he'll stick with the regular lineup for Monday's game against the St. Louis Rams, it seems likely Westbrook won't play much.

"I don't want him to get hurt, sure, but I do want him to practice and do the things he needs to do to play the game," said Reid, whose team already has clinched home field throughout the playoffs

The Eagles would be wise to show caution, especially with Owens out No one else in their receiving corps has the game-breaking ability of Owens or West-

Westbrook knows that defenses will key on him, but he expects to remain the No. 1 option on offense.

"I would expect to be but I think coach will do a good job of spreading the ball around," Westbrook said. "He's done a great job of calling plays. I don't think that will stop just because T.O. isn't

If Westbrook gets injured, the Eagles would be in serious trouble. Veteran Dorsey Levens is the only reliable option in the backfield, and it would be tough for him to handle 15 to 20 carries a

"Obviously, I don't want him to get hurt," Reid said.

For all Westbrook has accomplished - he has just four fewer receptions than Owens this season - he was not selected for the Pro Bowl. Nine Eagles were chosen for the game, the most representatives voted in for one team since 1998, but Westbrook was

"When you look at things like that, sometimes things pop up as far as why didn't he make it? Was it because of his name?" quarterback Donovan McNabb said. "We all know in our eyes and our mind that he's definitely a Pro Bowler



Philadelphia Eagles RB Brian Westbrook, above, who missed missed last year's playoffs with a torn triceps, will need to play a bigger role in the offense now that Terrell Owens has been sidelined by an ankle injury.

and he's one of the best players at his position.

Reid said Westbrook was "a Pro Bowl-caliber player.' While Westbrook tried down

playing the snub, saving Green Bay's Ahman Green, New York's Tiki Barber and Seattle's Shaun Alexander all were deserving of their selection, he could not hide his disappointment.

"I think I did a lot of good things for this team," Westbrook said. "You always want to be recognized by your peers."

Perhaps Westbrook was overlooked because he hasn't hit the 1,000-yard rushing mark, the mythical barrier used to judge a running back's season.

"It's hard to get 1,000 yards here every year and that's just because of the scheme that we run and the offense that we run. Westbrook said. "But you can still be a productive running back here under those conditions. I think I've done a pretty good job of doing what the coaches asked me to do."

Now they're asking him to stay healthy, make plays and finally get the Eagles to the Super Bowl.

Shoulder injury keeps Vick on bench Sunday

NEW ORLEANS - Atlanta Falcons quarterback Michael Vick was inactive for Sunday's game against the New Orleans Saints. Vick injured the shoulder of his throwing arm in the Falcons' 34-31 overtime victory against

Carolina. It was the first game Vick missed since Nov 23 2003 against the Tennessee Titans. The Falcons had already

clinched a first-round bye in the playoffs entering the game and can't clinch anything else.

Wearing shorts and a gray shirt, Vick met his cousin, Saints quarterback Aaron Brooks, at midfield during the pregame warmups Vick needs 80 yards to break

Bobby Douglass' mark for yards rushing by a quarterback in a season and 111 yards to become the first quarterback to rush for 1,000

Jaguars RB Taylor inactive against Houston

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. - Jacksonville Jaguars running back Fred Taylor was inactive Sunday against the Houston Texans, ending his streak of consecutive starts at 46 games. Rookie Greg Jones made his

first career start Taylor missed practice all

week with a sprained left knee and had been listed as questionable. He was injured during last week's victory at Green Bay. Only Curtis Martin of the New

York Jets and LaDainian Tomlinson of San Diego had more consecutive starts than Taylor. Taylor missed significant parts

of his first four seasons with recurring injuries, but had started every game the last three years.

Steelers' Staley out again

PITTSBURGH - Pittsburgh Steelers running back Duce Stamissed Sunday's game against the Baltimore Ravens, the sixth time in eight games he was

a sore ham-NFL string. briefs Staley, who

has played only twice since Oct. 31, was replaced by Jerome Bettis. Bettis rushed for at

least 100 yards in each of the five previous starts he made for Sta-Staley also was held out of the

Steelers' previous game, a 33-30 victory over the New York Giants on Dec. 18 in which Bettis gained 140 yards on 36 carries

Pats RB Faulk, WR Johnson out for Jets game

FOXBORO, Mass. - Running back Kevin Faulk and wide receiver Bethel Johnson are among the New England Patriots who were to miss Sunday's game against the New York Jets. Team

spokesman James said cornerback Randall Gay, safety Dexter Reid and linebacker Matt Chatham have also had their conditions downgraded and will miss the game

The Patriots' defensive secondary has already been hard-hit by injuries, with Tyrone Poole and Ty Law missing most of the season and Asante Samuel listed as questionable for Sunday's game with a shoulder injury.

The loss of Faulk (knee) and Johnson (thigh) also leaves the Patriots without two of their top kick

Giants place Hand on IR

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. The New York Giants placed defensive tackle Norman Hand on injured reserve Saturday, ending his season

Hand, a 10-year NFL veteran, had not played since injuring his groin in a Nov. 28 game against Philadelphia. He had 15 tackles and one sack this season

The team also signed offensive lineman Morgan Pears to its active roster from its practice

SPORTS



Defensive great White dies at 43

Cause of death uncertain for former NFL sack leader

The Associated Press

HUNTERSVILLE, N.C. - Reg gie White, one of the greatest defensive players in NFL history. died Sunday, his wife said. He was 43

"Today our beloved husband. father and friend passed away. White's wife, Sara, said in a state ment through a family pastor. "His family appreciates your thoughts and prayers as we mourn the loss of Reggie White. We want to thank you in advance for honoring our privacy

A cause of death was not imme diately known.

A two-time NFL Defensive Player of the Year, White played a total of 15 years with Philadelphia, Green Bay and Carolina. He retired in 2000 as the NFL's career leader in sacks with 198. The mark has since been passed by Bruce Smith

"We are deeply saddened by the passing of one of the greatest men ever to play the game of football," Eagles owner Jeffrey Lurie said in a statement. "On behalf of the entire Eagles family, our condolences go out to his wife, Sara, to his children, and to all those who have been touched by Reg-gie throughout his life. His legacy on and off the football field will never be forgotten

A member of the NFL's 75th anniversary team, White was elected to the Pro Bowl a record 13 straight times from 1986-98. He was the NFL's Defensive Player of the Year in 1987 and 1998, and was also an ordained minister

He began his career with the Memphis Showboats of the USFL in 1984, and joined the Philadelphia Eagles, who held his NFL rights, after the USFL folded in



MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL/AF

Former Green Bay Packers defensive end Reggie White shows his intensity in this 1997 file photo. White, 43, died Sunday of a heart attack at his home in Huntersville, N.C, his wife Sara said. White was a two-time NFL Defensive Player of the Year during his 15 years in the league.

After eight years as an integral niece in Philadelphia's "Gang Green Defense," White signed as a free agent with Green Bay in 1993 for \$17 million over four years, huge for that era. His signing, along with a trade for quarterback Brett Favre, brought a measure of respectability back to the

franchise and he was the first major black player to sign with the Packers as a free agent.

His decision to choose the Packers was a surprise. During much of his tour to various teams, he suggested he would prefer a major city, where he could minister to black youth.

"That's what changed the football fortunes of this franchise. It was huge," Packers President Bob Harlan said Sunday of "Everyone White's signing. thought the last place he would sign was Green Bay and it was

monumental because not only did he sign but he recruited for

Green Bay and got guys like Sean "He sent a message to the rest of the NFL that Green Bay was a great place to play and before that this was a place people didn't want to come

SEE WHITE ON PAGE 34

Jones to come here.

O'Neal fouls out, but Bryant misses chance to lift Lakers past former teammate

Page 29



LSU's Saban makes leap to NFL. accepting five-year deal to coach Dolphins

Page 33



All-Europe volleyball team loaded with experience

Page 30

